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NOTHING'S HAPPENED YET

JANUARY « » 1943

Published by the

PENNSYLVANIA COOPERATIVE
POTATO GROWERS ASSOCIATION

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POTASH — A MAJOR IN THE FOOD FRONT

Long recognized as one of the three essential plant foods, potash has moved up to the front line in America's food front. Years of official experimental work have clearly demonstrated that ample supplies and reserves of potash must be available in the soil to insure large yields of good quality crops. Such production is now vitally important to maintain our armed as well as civilian forces. The American Potash Industry has been developed, expanded, and is now geared to take the place demanded of it by the National emergency.

To make your potato goal this year on the least acreage possible in order to save labor, make sure that your soil and fertilizer will supply the crop with enough potash—the plant food which not only increases yield but turns out more No. 1's per acre. If you do not know just how much your soil will provide, your county agent or experiment station will make soil tests for you.

Write us for additional information and free literature on how to fertilize your crops.

More Potash means More Profit

American Potash Institute

INCORPORATED

1155 16th ST., N. W. WASHINGTON, D. C.

THE GUIDE POST

published by

The Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers Association, Inc. Williamsport

Volume XX **January, 1943** **Number 1**

THAT A FOOD SHORTAGE OF STAGGERING PROPORTION IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER

Former President Herbert Hoover, addressing the National Industrial Conference Board January 21 at New York, envisaged agriculture as a "munitions industry" if we are to support military operations and aid in saving the world from anarchy after the war. He said that "the United States is exporting less than half the food to its Allies in this war than it did in the first World War but has a greater shortage at home now than then." He urged that the draft of labor from the farms into arms munitions "cease"; that industry "rigidly economize on labor" to aid the farmer, and that the "possibility of **furloughing farm boys** from the Army to draw both army and farmer's pay be considered."

Dr. S. W. Fletcher, Dean of the School of Agriculture at The Pennsylvania State College, said January 21 that "United States food production in 1943 will not only be less than in 1942, but less than normal." Further, that no well considered plan to safeguard American food production has been developed." He also stated, "the fundamental corrective, and the only one that will insure a maximum production of food is to return to the farms the skilled labor which never should have been permitted to leave. If this cannot be done, we must be resigned to a steadily increasing food shortage even in America, the Land of Plenty."

It should be recalled that away back last July 30th the Potato Growers sent a resolution to the highest Government officials, pointing out to them that a food shortage was in the offing. The Potato Growers are not necessarily "a prophet or the son of a prophet" but they would be dumb indeed if they could not conclude as simple a statement as "two plus two." The modern farmer, because of mechanization of farm equipment, is a **mechanic as well as a farmer.** The whole trouble is that entire leadership—Congress, executives, man power and draft boards in general—are unaware of this fact. If this is not true, why then was this skilled mechanical-farmer ever permitted to leave the farm? Upon him and no one else depends whether Mexican, Kentuckian, or the federal unemployment labor will be needed at harvest time. For you cannot reap if it is not grown. It is this skilled mechanical-farmer who grows two-thirds of the nation's food supply utilizing only one-third of the National resources in manpower, land and equipment.

This skilled mechanical-farmer is a product of **experience on the farm** and contrary to the thinking of many who have not made their living from the farm, they cannot be turned out en-masse from short courses and night schools. There is one place to learn mechanical farming and that place is on the mechanically operated farm. The reason this is so, is that a mechanically operated farm has to "pay." One dumb mechanical operator may destroy the possibility of a profit for an entire year. Farms are not operated even in war times on a cost plus basis. If they were, then the farmer could experiment with all sorts of mechanical operators, and abuses and extravagancies of machinery and equipment.

Extravagancies and inefficiencies of the farm are charged directly to the

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farmer's account and if continued become the major reasons for his mortgage. This is why the mechanically operated farms, which produce 66 per cent of the food of the nation, are reluctant to even try to maintain last year's production, let alone increase production ten to twenty-five per cent.

Someone has said that if the army can make a highly mechanized soldier in three months, a farmer should be made in three weeks. The answer to this is that its author never made a living for himself and family from the farm. It takes more to be a mechanical-farmer than mere ability to "ride and drive." This mechanical farmer has to operate every detail, plowing, depth of planting, spacing, time and depth of weeding and cultivating, proper mixing fungicides and manner and time of applying, time of harvesting and storage, when and how to market, and a hundred and one other details all in such a manner that more is not spent than the sales of the products return. Do this with inexperienced mechanical-farmers! You might as well try to cross the Atlantic Ocean on a grindstone drawn by cockroaches!

There are thousands of mechanically equipped farms adequately financed by owners who have reached the three score years and ten, who, otherwise, have the business ability and farm experience to carry on efficiently but lack this skilled mechanical-farmer operator to make it pay. It is the responsibility of every influential citizen or organization to see to it that these **surplus** producing farms are gotten into production **this year**—for in no other way can "the dangerous responsibility this country has assumed," said Mr. Hoover, "to feed between 300,000,000 and 400,000,000 people at the war's end" be accomplished.

While Dean Feltcher said, "No well considered plan to safeguard American food production has been developed" the means are in the hands of the President of these U. S. and at one stroke of his pen the food requirements of the nation could be guaranteed with absolute certainty.

What It Takes

In the first place it takes the full appreciation on the part of everybody who eats, and we assume this includes high officials, that the nation's food supply is at its lowest ever since the Revolution.

Next, since 66 per cent of the nation's food is produced by the mechanically operated farms or since two-thirds of the mechanical farmers have left the farms, either via the draft or to industry, it is absolutely necessary that the **number** required to maintain the needed food be **returned** to the farm. It resolves itself into a mathematical problem. Fortunately the number will be comparatively small or it will do wonders to the morale of the farmer.

In the case of repairs, machinery and supplies there seems to be much adieu about nothing. Again if those in authority also eat it is up to them to see to it that all the farmers' requirements are made available through the usual channels.

Those who think the farmer is a hoarder of any of these commodities never made their living from farming. For after all the farmer has to pay for what he hoards. Just why would he purchase what he did not need? Questionnaires and rationing in no way covers a drop of gas or an ounce of steel in the case of the farmer. Anyone who had made his living farming knows this—for what the farmer uses the farm pays for.

Questionnaires or trips to rationing boards will be a handicap to food production equal to labor shortage. Both should be instantly dispensed with. All of this should be worked through the dealer or supplies of the farmer. The farmer has enough to do to procure, assemble or put into operation. It is too much to expect him to make a single extra trip to procure his indispensable needs. To be sure there are some farmers who can make out with such handicaps but for the rank and file—they live in the country miles from rationing boards. It is disconcerting, consumes time when labor is at a premium, consumes both tires and gas, and in the end he only gets what he had to have in the beginning. Then why the "monki-doodlin"? Why establish bottlenecks when what is needed is even an easier way for the farmer to procure what it takes to produce. Under these conditions it would be more to the point to lay them at his door step with the admonition to get going. "Food will win the war and write the peace." Let agriculture take its rightful place—"A munitions industry" with no bottlenecks, no priorities needed, essential workers in essential jobs, and no padding of jobs and no hoarding of essential workers avoiding another "too little and too late."

It seems to us that someone should be

(Continued on page five)



THE PANEL

Messrs. Greene, Odhner, Frantz, Lohr and L. B. F. Raycroft speaking to Potato Growers on the serious problem of farm labor.

THE PANEL DISCUSSION

The panel discussion on Pennsylvania Potato Growers in the War Emergency, Tuesday, January 12th, was most illuminating as far as it went. The major purposes of the discussion were first to bring existing agency heads together so that they may learn of the restrictions and obstacles of brother agencies and that they may also learn of the farmers attitude in respect to the entire set up. The second purpose was to receive direct helpful answers, answers free from ifs, ands, whereases and gee haws. The third was to secure free discussion from the floor and the fourth purpose was to find out how we as potato growers might fit into the emergency picture.

Perhaps the fulfilment of these purposes and aims was really too much to expect. Yet if we are to pledge more and more production even up to 150% we surely should expect restricting agencies to come through with constructive helps. Our first purpose was defeated in that each administrative head left the room immediately after his part on the program seemed to be satisfied yet each agency member of the panel still fails to understand that conflicting and paralleling agencies are still making rules and demands. A complete picture would give administrators an understanding and we believe give him a basis for modification of restrictions.

Our second purpose and aim was frustrated in that there was a definite lack of postiveness and directness. Specifically, what answers did the potato growers take home with them? Yes, Mr. Raycroft came out flat-footed, Yes, Mr. Burton did a grand job, as a good will commissioner. Yes, Mr. Greene, urged clubbing on transportation but concretely how, when, where. Yes, Mr. Pierre gave us a list of plenty of confusing forms and affidavits but specifically what help did Mr. Potato grower get?

Free discussion from the floor of the meeting was obviously out for time was against us. A true panel is not a good panel unless there is plenty of free discussion. Time would not permit.

So far we have discovered the only way we can fit into the emergency picture is to sacrifice plenty on our own. Our salvation will be individualistic action in the faith that providence and our good old U. S. A., will not fail us in our dire need in 1943.

I hope I am not misunderstood, I am thankful that at least we heard from the big boys in Pennsylvania. I apreciate that their presence was a definite concession to us. There willingness to be on hand if only for so short a time indicates their desire to be helpful. Perhaps our 300 attending members may still see results in the offing.

—C. F. H. W.

FOOD SHORTAGE

(Continued from page four)

given the absolute authority to give the farmer **What it takes** without causing one minute's delay or causing unnecessary trouble and waste effort over bad roads where production is really expected.

—THE COMMITTEE

THE REMOVAL OF UNCERTAINTIES AND DELAY IN REPAIR AND REPLACEMENT OF NECESSARY EQUIPMENT

CLAYTON SNYDER, Neffs, Penna., *Member of Panel Discussion*

The foremost question in the farmers mind is: can we get repairs? I do not think that there is any other question that we have been approached about more often.

The second question that the potato growers asks is: can I get spray materials for bugs and blight, also, can I get fertilizers? The third question is: how long will it take to get repairs? The fourth question is: am I able to secure any new tools in case of a complete breakdown? And how long will it take? The answers and solutions to these four major questions will constitute a basis for the farmers course of action this coming season and it is of the utmost importance that our government will clarify this situation immediately, for the farmer wants to know where he is at within the next sixty days for he is not going to risk thousands of dollars in planting crops when he has no reasonable assurance that he can follow thru to a successful harvest.

The element of **time** is of prime importance to a farmers operation; by that I mean that when a farmer breaks down in the field he does not want to wait until tomorrow or next week to have his machine repaired; he wants it done today for tomorrow may be too late to save his crop, for instance if his binder, tractor, or thresher breaks down and has to lay over for several days a rainy spell may come along or a hail storm and ruin his entire years efforts. I had an occasion on my own farm last summer when a bad case of blight set in and if we could not have sprayed that day tomorrow would have been too late.

In regard to delay I will give you a few instances of delay that happened during the summer; we had a young man close to town who had 70 acres of potatoes to dig and on one day he was able to get nine pickers (something unusual) after he had dug a few rows in the morning a tire on his potato digger blew out so he rushed to our place for a new tire, I told him that we had a tire there but that it could not be delivered to him until he had procured a certificate of purchase from our rationing board—from there on he did the talking alone—he said do you mean to tell me that I cannot get this tire right now when I have all these pickers waiting and I do not know when I am able to get pickers again and with rain every other day—I said I know that you should have this tire by all means right now but I do not wish to pay $10,000 fine and go to jail for ten years on top of the fine should I hand this tire over to you without permission. If there is any time in a man's life that he is fit to be tied that is the time when he is broken down and you have the repairs right in front of him and you cannot hand them out.

We had another case where it took four months to get a new tire for a potato sprayer. I have a certificate of purchase for a tire with me right now that is dated Sept. 15th, 1942 for a 7.50 x 10 front tire for a tractor (there are about 30 to 40 of these tractors in Lehigh Co.) and probably several thousand throughout the U. S. This is the report we have from the tire companies—none available, none permitted to be manufactured and no substitutes, the tractor which this tire belongs to is only a few years old and the owner of the tractor has no horses has all his farm operations built around this tractor—now what is he going to do? This is a serious situation this farmer has between $1200.00 and $1300.00 dollars stuck in the tractor and cannot even begin to operate his farm this spring. Personally I am really worried about this situation. We have no more 4.00 x 8 tires for potato diggers and the same story none available, none permitted to be manufactured and no substitutes so what will happen to these potato diggers when the tires go bad. These tires are used on two row potato diggers and any farmer that operates a two row digger as a rule has a fairly large acreage to dig—this means some more headache. We had numerous more instances where it took two to three weeks or longer before we were able to get a tire thru. If more than thirty days elapse from the date of the purchase certificate then we have to get a new certificate which means another several days.

Were these tires used on a pleasure vehicle it would be a different story but with production of food so very vital to our war endeavors and civilian needs it takes on a serious aspect when such tools are forced out of production thru no available tires.

During the summer we filled out a P D 1 A for high speed drills and bits for our lathe and the answer we received from Wash. was that they felt that there were enough of these articles in the surrounding community and that the order was therefore rejected. Since then we were in contact with Mr. Bullitt W.P.B. chief for Penna. and he instructed us to fill out a P.D.333A work sheet take it to Mr. Rems at Allentown and have him forward it to Mr. Bullitt's office, but this is still entirely too cumbersome for an emergency, for these delays irritate the farmer and tend to pull down his morale.

At this point I would like to throw out this sentiment that in my estimation Mr. Bullitt, Mr. Piere and Mr. Ward were most sympathetic to our cause and promised to grant us all the assistance at their command.

In conclusion, permit me to suggest that this group urge that W.P.B. cut all red tape in securing emergency repairs and that action be taken to secure the manufacture of tires and certain essential machinery which we know is the equivalent of an entire new unit such as mounted cultivators, where we know there is a definite shortage to even equip tractors already sold and further suggest that the president of the Pennsylvania Potato Growers appoint a committee.

Apparently labor boards and man power commissions have never differentiated between the kind of labor the farmer has been pleading for and the kind that has been most popularized.

What is required within the next 30 days is some assurance that the farmer will be able to bring back his technically skilled mechanized farmer—either from industry or from the armed forces. Each of these men are capable of planning and caring for production that will result in supplying one meal of a heavy vegetable for 1,000,000 soldiers. Without these key men the nation is destined to fall short on staples.

It goes without saying that labor for harvesting is also indispensable but no one can believe in this country if the crops are once grown patriotism alone will turn out enough young people, women, retired men and professional men to salvage the crops. This to be sure is a future organization job. Nevertheless the mechanically skilled farmer is needed now. Six months from now harvest help will not be needed—then disaster here with anarchy abroad— says "Food Coordinator of World War I."



LISTENING IN ON THE PANEL

Ivan Miller, Corry; Phil Antes, Williamsport; M. P. Whitenight, President-Elect, Bloomsburg; J. A. Donaldson, Emlenton; G. W. Rockwell, Sunbury, with Daddy McNeal, Coatesville, in the right foreground.

PLANNING FOR WAR TIME POTATO PRODUCTION

J. B. R. DICKEY—*Extension Specialist*



J. B. R. Dickey

It may be a good idea to take a look ahead to see if present and probable conditions are apt to make any particular changes desirable or necessary. With labor, new equipment and good seed all decidedly limited it would seem essential to make the best and most efficient use of what we have of these commodities and to guard most carefully against preventable slips such as poor stands, blight, bugs, etc. which may seriously reduce yields. Few commercial growers will probably feel able to increase their acreage materially, and lack of equipment and seed and the inability of most spray rings to take on more acres will pretty largely keep the livestock farmer out of the commercial potato game. The latter with their clover sods and liberally manured soils have land in splendid condition to grow profitable crops of potatoes but they generally need every acre of it to grow feed. With some of them reported going out of the dairy business or reducing their herds, it might be an excellent time for some commercial potato growers who can expand their acreage or wish to lengthen their rotation or move operations to more fertile soils to do so through renting or buying such land. It certainly is no time to expend labor, fertilizer or potato seed on land poorly adapted to the crop or low in fertility, where a good yield depends too completely on a favorable season. It also is a poor time for the inexperienced to get in the game even, if it were possible for them to do so.

Rotations

The war emergency may make it desirable in some cases to work good potato soils harder than is wise in the long run. not only this year but for the next several years. In Jersey and Long Island early potatoes for several consecutive years, with a cover crop of rye or rye grass between, combined with liberal fertilization, has been a successful practice, generally on the lighter soils where good soil condition is not so important. The Jerseymen and Long Islanders are not satisfied with this system however. They follow it only because they feel it necessary in their case and are planning for longer rotations. It will not work except with early potatoes where the cover crop can be gotten in about September 1st.

A two year rotation is better than no rotation, but most of those who have tried it for long have found it eventually unsatisfactory. It will work better, and longer, if one has a good soil to start with; one well stocked with organic matter through previous sods and manuring, where the intervening crop can make a large, vigorous growth of roots and top to turn down. In the rotation experiment on fertile limestone soil at State College yields on all the two year rotations seem to be falling steadily behind those of three and four years which contain a real sod and where some manure is used. On good soil, level enough to prevent any erosion problem, soybeans combined between potato crops may be warranted in the present emergency need for beans, but the soybean plots have been giving the lowest yields in our rotation experiment.

Rye grass is a great winter cover crop but its use in a two year rotation may be open to question. Sown in the spring with, or on, a grain crop it will grow vigorously as long as cool, moist weather lasts, and may seriously crowd the grain and the clover growing with it. When it gets hot and dry, rye grass does not do much, so that it may be dormant much of the growing season. Sown in the spring it may also invite trouble from grubs and wire worms the following year. In a potato-small grain rotation clover will probably be better on any land where clover can be grown; and a very small amount of hydrated lime or pulverised limestone should bring clover even on very acid soils which were well fertilized the previous year for potatoes. If the clover fails to catch or is smothered out by the grain, rye grass disced lightly into the stubble after harvest serves a real purpose in fitting the land for another crop the next spring and should bring no worm damage. Lodging of oats on potato fields is often a real problem, but light seeding, six or even four pecks per acre, will do much to prevent it. Rye grass sown in late summer and harvested for seed the next season has possibilities in some rotations but it does not fit in with potatoes.

Another interesting development as our potato rotation experiment gets older is that yields with sweet clover and alfalfa in the rotation are tending downward and those with red clover and timothy upward. Crops following clover and timothy mown **two years** have been high, but there is too much danger here of worm damage. It simply confirms our feeling that it is the more mature, fibrous roots of the grasses and true clovers which give us the desirable soil condition and erosion control needed on the heavier soils. Sweet clover and alfalfa do not have this sort of a root system. On the shale soils of Lehigh County, where the alfalfa potato rotation has been satisfactory for years, soil condition is not such a serious matter.

It is hard to believe in view of our past ideas, but the highest yield in our rotation experiment last year was in a four year rotation where potatoes followed corn, and the second highest was a similar rotation where the potatoes followed clover hay and were followed by corn. One of the main reasons for this was that in the four year rotation both the corn and the potatoes were manured, and the potatoes after corn thus received the benefit of two manurings. Potatoes after corn should be as safe from worm damage as any place we can grow them. They will not make as big vines as following sod but our **yields** after corn have been higher nearly every year with late potatoes of the Rural type. This may give some general farmers, who are able to do so, an idea as to putting in some potatoes instead of oats to be followed by winter grain.

Fertilization

What fertilizer one can get, and how much, is largely in the hands of his dealer and will be based on what he bought in previous years. The number of analyses that will be offered has been radically reduced. Our old standby, 4-8-8, has been replaced by 4-10-10, 4-12-12 or, for those who think they need more potash, it would be possible to put up a 4-8-12. Under good soil conditions, especially where manure is used, the effort to save nitrogen will probably cause no hardship. In fact, with the late varieties such as Rurals and Mountains, which had a tendency to produce excessive vines on fertile soils and in moist seasons, the substitution of 800 of 4-10-10, or 666 of 4-12-12, for 1000 of 4-8-8, thus getting the same amount of phosphate and potash but less nitrogen, may be decidedly profitable through lower cost and less handling and actually increased yields. Experiments with late varieties have shown either little increase or actual decreases in yield from nitrogen much in excess of 30 pounds per acre. The same thing was true when phosphate or potash exceeded 80 pounds per acre. There may be soils and seasons when more potash will pay, only local trials over several years will prove it. Early potatoes will probably pay for more nitrogen, and there is some question regarding Katahdins and Sebagoes, but very little actual information. To get as much nitrogen as some of us have been using we would now probably have to waste some phosphate and potash. With all waste of manufactured or transported materials unpatriotic the best plan will be to hold fertilizer usage down and make all possible use of home sources of plant food. The grower with a good clover sod or manure (or both) is in a favored position; especially if he has land which has been getting one or both during past years. A light application of poultry droppings or litter will furnish a lot of quickly available nitrogen.

As to methods of applying fertilizer there is still need for more experimental information. The indications are that such methods as the so-called "high-low" and plowing down part of the fertilizer give greater returns compared to band application only where the total amount is over 1000 pounds per acre, also probably where little else in the way of sods and manure are used. In a test at the College last year additional potash and phosphate plowed down gave no consistent increase where manure was used and 1000 pounds of complete fertilizer put on with the planter.

Other Suggestions

Good seed is always important and should be given the best possible care. This means keeping it as dormant as possible until planting time. When seed starts to sprout in storage much might be done to retard it by opening the doors and windows or ventilators wide in order to lower the temperature and blow

(Continued on page twenty-nine)



Leo H. Stout, Shinglehouse, Potter County, F. F. A. leader and recently elected President of the Junior Potato Growers Association.



Daniel W. Keener, Neffs, Lehigh County, an active packer and co-operator recently elected Secretary of the Junior Potato Growers Association.

JUNIOR POTATO GROWERS' ORGANIZATION

During the business meeting of the Association, January 12th, 1943, President P. D. Frantz, appreciating the importance and desirability of a Junior branch of the Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers Association, asked Executive Secretary, C. F. H. Wuesthoff to explain the thought more fully. The Executive Secretary explained how a Junior organization would be most interesting to young people and most important to the future potato industry in Pennsylvania. The secretary envisioned a Junior organization with Officers, Directors and committees to carry on a program of potato industry advancement. The facilities of the state association were pledged to assist this infant organization, "Camp Potato" and all it stands for, the marketing program, The GUIDE POST and the membership would all be at the disposal of these young growers, the growers of the industry of tomorrow. The possibilities are most promising.

Junior Growers and Future Farmer boys present asked permission to retire from the business session to consider the proposals. After a short deliberation they requested the advice of Messrs. Whitenight and Nixon. Within a short time Mr. Leo H. Stout of Shinglehouse, made his report to the effect that a temporary organization was formed with the following officers elected:

President—Leo H. Stout, Shinglehouse, Potter County

Vice-President—Calvin M. Will, Somerset, Somerset County, R. D.

Secretary—Daniel W. Keener, Neffs, Lehigh County, R. D.

Treasurer—Harold Henninger, Allentown, Lehigh Co., R. No. 4

Publicity Director—Leo H. Stout, Shinglehouse, Potter Co.

The group in regular session decided to call their organization The Junior Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers Association. President Stout offered to arrange for membership cards in order that an active membership drive might be launched as soon as possible. He further asked the sincere cooperation of all present since the group already pledged a membership of 400. This report was inspiring to all members of the State Association.

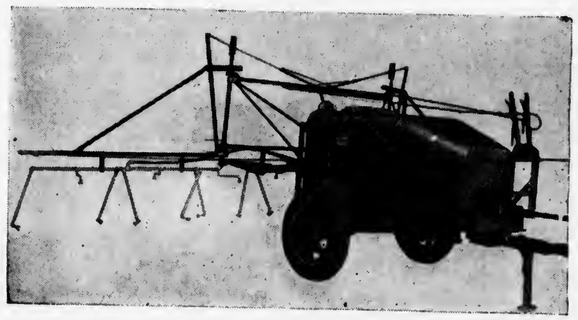
A brief conference was held with these young people. It is planned to call the officers together to formulate definite plans, and draw up a set of By-Laws. This meeting will take place early in February. Young growers wishing to become charter members are asked to contact the above listed officers or the executive secretary at Williamsport before February 10th.

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FOOD MACHINERY CORPORATION

John Bean Mfg. Co., Division

Lansing, Michigan

A & P PAYS TRIBUTE TO NATION'S FARMERS

Points Out That Outstanding Performance of Growers, Distributors Was Achieved in Face of Serious Wartime Obstacles; Says Teamwork is Key to Success on Food Front

NEW YORK—Major credit for accomplishing the biggest food job in history during 1942 should go to the nation's 7,000,000 farm families, John A. Hartford, president of the Great Atlantic & Pacific Tea Company, said today.

America's farmers and their distributors supplied record quantities of food to our armed forces, our allies and our civilian workers despite serious shortages of manpower, machinery and transportation facilities, Hartford said in a year-end statement on the wartime operations of the food industry.

"I wonder if the American public fully appreciates the difficulties under which the farmer labored," Hartford said. "Rising prices of farm supplies increased his production costs. Gas and tire rationing and other transportation restrictions made it difficult for him to get his produce to market. Shortages of boxes and storage space and fertilizer were big problems that had to be overcome. Restrictions on canning deprived him of part of his normal market.

"And most serious of all, the departure of 2,500,000 employable farm workers to the armed forces and industrial plants since 1940 caused a drastic reduction of the normal labor supply. In spite of all these obstacles, which might well have been considered insurmountable in normal times, America's farmers worked hard and long to exceed by 14 per cent the 1941 crop and by 12 per cent the previous record crop of 1937. And they have been called upon to do an even greater job in 1943."

American retailers, too, had serious problems to overcome, Hartford pointed out, because while 13 per cent of the food produced in 1942 went to our armed forces and our allies, the other 87 per cent had to be distributed through normal trade channels to the civilian workers on the home front.

"The nation's 560,000 food retailers had to do this intensive wartime job with less than peacetime facilities," he said. "The government, lacking adequate facilities for policing price ceilings and rationing, relied upon food merchants to make these twin guards against inflation work.

"Grocers had to cope with buying rushes that created artificial shortages; with price ceilings that caught them in a squeeze between high wholesale and low retail prices; and with a shortage of labor as serious as that confronting the farmer. Almost 15,000 of our own employes, for example, are now in the nation's armed services.

"Despite all these problems, the grocers of America moved food at less average cost than ever before. For example, our own company today is providing food for our customers at the lowest gross profit rate in the history of the retail grocery business. This means that more of the consumer's food dollar goes for food and less for overhead than ever before.

"I know that none of these record-smashing accomplishments would have been possible if it were not for the American capacity for teamwork. Nowhere has public recognition of the fact that our work effort is a cooperative enterprise been more evident than in the food field. In state after state, producers and distributors have been working out together more efficient, less costly means of moving food from farm to dinner table. Their task would have been much more difficult had it not been for the cooperation of the buying public. Consumers, bewildered at first by sudden food shortages, have now accepted rationing in good spirit as their contribution to victory.

"The accomplishments of 1942 are particularly gratifying because they promise even greater accomplishment in 1943."

Hartford asserted that a year ago the food industry had no proven pattern to follow in doing its wartime job, but that today conditions are improved considerably.

"Today farmers and distributors have behind them a year's hard-won experience," said Hartford. "There is better public understanding of the factors necessitating changes in our buying and eating habits. Machinery has been established for the equitable rationing of foods when shortages threaten. Governmental control of the food picture has been centralized under Secretary of Agriculture Wickard.

"Of course, many problems remain and new hazards will undoubtedly be encountered. The solution of these problems calls for the utmost in ingenuity, efficiency, economy and good will. Neither food, nor time, nor manpower, nor transportation facilities can be wasted. Every unnecessary handling operation and cost between farm and dinner table must be eliminated.

"Above all else, the farmer must be given the tools with which to do the great job confronting him. Farmers have been called on to increase acreages of crops in 1943 and to increase livestock production 10 per cent. Of all the food produced during the coming year, it is estimated 25 per cent will go to our armed forces and our allies. Additional government requirements may be expected as need arises to feed the people of conquered nations freed from the axis yoke.

"This does not mean that the American people will go hungry. We are assured that there will be adequate food to handle the health and morale of our people, so necessary to the war effort. But it does mean that the variety of foods will be limited. Some foods of low-nutrient value will not be available. Others will be available in limited quantities and rationing will be necessary to insure their equitable distribution. New ways of processing or distributing foods hitherto canned will have to be devised.

"But none of America's food problems are incapable of solution as long as our 132,000,000 people recognize that food is a vital weapon of modern war—that it must be used, like planes and guns and tanks, to speed final victory.

"Cooperation is the keynote to success in the food phase of our war effort. Cooperation among growers to increase production; cooperation between growers and distributors to make these foods available to fighting men and civilian workers as quickly and economically as possible; and cooperation between government, retailers and consumers to see that available foods are distributed equitably at fair prices.

"Through such cooperation the food resources of America can be developed and utilized to the fullest extent in the fight for freedom."

BUY WAR BONDS

With The

EXTRA PROFITS

You Can Earn

By Selling Your Potatoes

In

Hammond Better Bags

ATTRACTIVE
ECONOMICAL
CONVENIENT
DURABLE
STRONG

HAMMOND Better Bags WELLSBURG, W.VA.

* * *

HAMMOND BAG & PAPER CO.

WELLSBURG, W. VA.

Why Agrico

GROWS MORE #1's PER ACRE

HISTORY repeats . . . in time of war the emphasis is always on food-crop production. Now more than ever you'll want to make every acre produce its utmost. And that's where Agrico comes in.

From Maine to Minnesota . . . north, south, east and west . . . leading potato growers have proved — proved in terms of measured yields and extra cash returns in side-by-side tests — that Agrico for Potatoes produces more No. 1's per acre. And potatoes pay out in No. 1's!

Why Agrico Pays Out Better

There's a reason — several reasons, in fact — why Agrico grows true-to-type potatoes . . . smoother, cleaner, more uniform in size: (1) There's an Agrico specially formulated to grow potatoes in your local soils and under your local growing conditions; (2) based on over 80 years' experience, Agrico supplies all the needed plant-food elements in just the right form and in the proper balance; (3) by constantly testing soils and measuring crop results, Agrico is kept abreast of the changing needs of the changing soil.



Let Agrico help you take full advantage of today's opportunity . . . use Agrico on your own farm . . . profit by the all-important difference Agrico makes in yield, and above all, in better crop quality.

Agrico is Manufactured ONLY by

The AMERICAN AGRICULTURAL CHEMICAL Co.

Baltimore, Md. Buffalo, N.Y.
Carteret, N. J.

THERE'S A BRAND OF AGRICO FOR EACH CROP

AGRICO THE NATION'S LEADING FERTILIZER

State Project Contest Winner Highest in Yield and Highest in Profits

My first Vocational Agriculture project consisted of one acre of potatoes. Since I live on a farm that has as its principal enterprises poultry and potatoes, I had two alternatives for my project. I selected the latter for my first project because it would not require as much capital to finance a potato project as a poultry project. My father raises 35 acres of potatoes annually so he agreed to rent me an acre from one of his fields and also the necessary equipment to work the project. He also agreed to supply me with the necessary seed, fertilizer, and spray materials which I was to pay back after the potatoes were harvested.

I started my project on April 20, 1942 by plowing under a heavy cover crop of winter wheat. Three days later I harrowed the field until I had a nice fine seed bed. On April 24th I cut the potatoes by hand and on the 25th with the help of my father we planted them with a 2-row planter and 500 lbs. of 8-16-16 fertilizer.

On May 12th the potatoes started pushing their way through the soil; so I took the tractor and a 3-section spike tooth harrow and harrowed the potatoes in the same direction as the rows run. Three days later I repeated the operation except that I harrowed across the rows. On May 2nd I cultivated the potatoes for the first time with a 2-row tractor cultivator. Two weeks later I again cultivated them for the second and last time; after which, I went through and pulled all the large weeds that the cultivator missed.

On June 16th I started spraying the potatoes. I used an 8-row Bean sprayer mounted on a truck. I used a 4-6-50 Bordeaux mixture to control the potato blight. Two times I had to add calcium arsenate to control the aphids and the Colorado potato beetle. The sprays were put on in approximately 9 day intervals except when it was too wet making it impossible to keep spraying on schedule.

On Saturday September 5th and Labor day September 7th I dug my potatoes with the help of my father and brother. I used a tractor and a one row digger after which the potatoes were picked up in bags and hauled to the potato cellar where they were dumped in one corner.

I selected one peck of potatoes and exhibited them at the Allentown Fair where I received first premium in the Vocational Agriculture individual project exhibits.

The potatoes were then graded with a grader removing seconds and all other bad ones. They were packed as U. S. No. 1's in 50 pound Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers Association bags. I sold them to my uncle, Clinton Geiger, who is a potato dealer.



Ernest V. Geiger, Schnecksville R. D. 1, packing his project potatoes in Pennsylvania Co-op. Potato Growers trade-marked bags. Ernest is doing a fine piece of work.

My Agriculture teacher sent my project book to the state project contest where I received first place in the potato project contest and first place in the potato contest for the highest yield per acre.

I enjoyed this project very much and I have learned a lot about potato growing. For my next years project I am planning to take another potato project

(Continued on page twenty-seven)

THE GUIDE POST

Published monthly by the Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers,' Inc.

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Annual membership fee is $1.00 This includes the GUIDE POST.

All communications should be addressed to C. F. H. Wuesthoff, Executive Secretary, Williamsport, Pennsylvania.

WHO SPEAKS FOR THE AGRICULTURE OF PENNSYLVANIA

At a not too recent meeting called in Washington by an alphabetical restricting agency for the purpose of consultation and advise, Pennsylvania representation was most limited. The question was raised—Who Speaks for the Agriculture of Pennsylvania—Who has taken up the torch for the Potato Growers of Pennsylvania, a 20,000,000 industry involving some 7,000 growers. Maine has its commissioner, its jobber wholesaler organization and its cooperative and its senators, its Congressman, all vitally interested in "The Potato." These men are on the job **always.** Idaho, New York, Texas, all are represented and subjected to call at short notice. Now how about Pennsylvania—Who Speaks for us and our Industry when the need arises in Washington, Who Indeed—Senators, not interested; Congressmen? industrial leanings and most too busy—Farm Organizations — No positive organization —Secretary of Agriculture or Commissioners too busy with regulatory duties in the past—The Future? We shall see, what we shall see.

Surely, even though we are an industrial state we too are a positive high ranking agricultural state—190,000 farms, ranking 4th in the United States from standpoint of potato production, third or fourth in dairy products. First in value of poultry and poultry products. Do we or don't we warrant positive representation with such a background.

Complacency—Production we have it —Our markets are at our door steps. So what—Ho Hum, Why Worry—We'll get along—Complacency. Who is speaking for Pennsylvania Agriculture?

—C.F.H.W.

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

Recognition for Outstanding Service

The 1942 Certificate and Medal Awards for outstanding cooperation with the Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers' were made to three worthy institutions who have consistently recognized the value of the potato industry and its organization. The recipients were: O. T. Grazier of the Oakland Chapter of the F. F. A., Oakland, Maryland, for best exemplifying the DIGNITY of COMMON LABOR and the BEAUTY of PRACTICAL COOPERATION. Mr. Grazier and his students are to be congratulated, for receiving such an honor bestowed upon them. This comes but once in a mans lifetime.

The American Potash Institute and S. D. Gray, their northeastern manager. was given this recognition because of their interest and cooperation. Specifically the award was made because Mr. Gray and the Institute placed TRUTH and its INTERPRETATION above institutional POLICY and PREJUDICE.

The Hershey Industrial School and B. A. Rockwell who have always been interested in Pennsylvania's potato industry—To them in recognition of their DIRECT CONTRIBUTION to OUR INDUSTRY for the past ten years goes this 1942 award.

ANNUAL MEETING
- Highlights -

Attendance—

Morning Session and Business Meeting—200, Afternoon "Panel Discussion"—325, Evening "Bull Session"—150. Most gratifying—beyond all expectations.

Membership—

Wallet sized cards issued all day and evening. Each member has own membership record.

Junior Growers—

Organized by electing officers and a publicity director. Four hundred membership is their goal.

New Varieties—

Fifteen newly developed seedling varieties were on exhibit—thanks to Ed Fisher's tireless interest. The display caused plenty of favorable comment.

The Quiz Program—

On production fundamentals — Veterans versus Juniors versus Future Farmers competing. The final decision was a pleasant draw, according to official judges.

Farm Mobilization—

Lt. Col. W. B. Cleeves and Staff Sgt. Loehr explained most interestingly the soldier and his food requirements. Exhibits of Iron Rations were proof of the soldier's modern requirements.

Four Hundred Bushel Club—

Medals awarded by Dr. E. L. Nixon to those qualified and present. Medals will be mailed to those not present. W. B. Krause, Lehigh County, had the record yield of the year with 617.5 bu. per measured acre.

Oldest but Youngest—

Daddy McNeal of Coatesville, 84 years young, hasn't missed a meeting in years. The oldest, by years, regular member of the association. Still actively interested.

Membership Announcements—

We are holding our own, but not sufficiently strong to impress. The attainment of our goal within the next 60 days will "tell the World."

Certificate of Merit & Medal Award—

To O. T. Grazier, Advisor of Oakland F.F.A. Chapter—to B. A. Rockwell, of the Hershey Industrial School—to S. D. Gray, of the American Potash Institute. Why? See article elsewhere in this issue.

Potato Picking Championship Plaque—

To Mahlon King of Chester County. Mrs. Mabel Wrestley of Boswell, Somerset County, announced her vowed intentions for 1943.

Liberalization of Deferments For Farm Workers Planned

A liberalization of draft deferments for essential farm workers was agreed upon Friday at a meeting of administrative officials with farm State Senators.

Senator Bankhead of Alabama, spokesman for the group, announced that selective service officials would issue a new directive to local draft boards immediately. It will make the "16-unit" formula an objective rather than a requirement, and the boards will be granted broad power to deviate from this objective, even to the extent of deferring a producer of only eight units.

The 16-unit formula sets a standard for determining whether a farm worker should be deferred. It stipulates that an essential worker is one who tends 16 milk cows or does a comparable amount of work toward the production of livestock, poultry, grain and other products deemed essential.

Under the revised regulations, local boards will be directed to classify in class 2-C or class 3-C all registrants who are considered essential on the farm under the new standards. In 2-C will be included essential farm workers without dependents and in 3-C those with dependents.

"Increased goals for three vitally important war-time food crops—potatoes, dry beans and fresh truck crops—and a production payment program designed to encourage the increases were announced today by Secretary of Agriculture Claude R. Wickard.

"Secretary Wickard asked for an additional increase of 100,000 acres in potatoes, which increases the potato goal from 3,160,000 to 3,260,000 for 1943. In addition to supporting prices at not less than 90 per cent of parity, the new program also offers farmers a payment of 50 cents a bushel on the normal yield of the acreage planted to potatoes in excess of 90 per cent of the individual farm goal, up to 110 per cent of the goal.

SECRETARY AND GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT OF 1942's ACTIVITIES

January 12th, 1943

TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION: Herewith is the report in brief of the association's activities of 1942 with emphasis on activities since July 20th, 1942.

MEMBERSHIP—The Association's membership as of December 31, 1942 was 810, representing 63 counties of Pennsylvania, 14 surrounding states, and 2 foreign countries. This membership shows a slight decrease over the previous year's, 300 memberships expiring the month of January. The counties represented vary in membership from 1 to 85, Lehigh having this membership; Warren and Columbia and Northampton being close second respectively.

GUIDE POST—Was published monthly through the year of 1942. It was supported by approximately 29 advertisers. Fourteen hundred are printed monthly and sent out to the membership and to interested cooperators. This, our Trade Publication, included as near as possible a report of our Association's activities together with timely information pertaining to potato interests. **Read the Guide Post and you read the Latest.**

"CAMP POTATO"—Camp Potato activities were conducted as of previous years with perhaps some additional acreage planted. Activities were under the direction of Dr. E. L. Dixon, Director Ed Fisher, with many association members and directors assisting marvelously. August 26th the Annual Field Day was held. This was a distinct success due to the splendid cooperation of Potter County citizens. Due to this cooperation the Field Day resolved itself into a patriotic parade and rally as well. The usual tour throughout the seedling demonstration plots was held. Thorough spraying of Camp Potato fields was a silent demonstration in blight control. Seedlings were harvested in good time, without any appreciable losses, due to community cooperation.

Over $780 net was realized to date from the sale of potatoes. Seed inventory well around 2500 bushels. The condition of the "Camp" is good. Equipment has been repaired and laid away in good condition.

BLOSSOM QUEEN — During 1942 Field Day activities the year's Potato Blossom Queen was selected in the person of Aola Howard of Shinglehouse, who does the industry credit. She is a true specimen of American rural life. Miss Howard did some fine publicity work for the association through visits in Pittsburgh and Sunbury, speaking to the public over the radio in both cases.

POTATO PICKING CHAMPION—The 1942 Potato Picking Champion in the person of Mahlon King of Parkesburg was selected.

THE NORTHWESTERN COOPERATIVE POTATO GROWERS—The Potato Processing Plant in which this association is very much interested has been visited several times by directors and the General Manager to assist in the reestablishment and reorganization. We are glad to report that in the first week of December processed potatoes were again manufactured. The F.S.A. have been most helpful in securing a loan and in assisting in the general management. To date all products manufactured have been sold but not yet delivered.

MARKETING AND SALES PROGRAM — An expansion program was launched August 1 by this association in that Butler was established as a Branch Sales and Service Office similar to the Allentown office established in 1941. The Bellefonte office was moved to Williamsport as the central office for the association, the idea of these 3 offices being to better serve producers and distributors and to facilitate the movement of Blue Label potatoes. In the 1942 fall season, sales have been approximately 2,100,000 Blue Peck equivalent and were moved to the various markets in Pennsylvania, Maryland, West Virginia, Ohio, and New York.

A Joint Conference was called by the directors and distributors September 15 at the William Penn Hotel, Pittsburgh. Forty-five distributors, members, and friends attended. The program was presided over by Messrs. Fred Johnson and P. D. Frantz. For the first time in history our State Association made arrangements and paid the entire expenses involved.

THE PAPER BAG SITUATION—Paper bag supplies for the 1942 season were particularly good. Supplying companies cooperated well. There is no reason to be concerned over the price of paper or deliveries for the 1943 movement.

GRADE SUPERVISOR'S SCHOOLS—Six Grade Supervisors' Schools were held with the Department of Agriculture, the Extension Service, and the Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers' Association cooperating very closely. Each school was most effective. To date 396 Grade Supervisors' stamps have been issued, 39 of which were made this year. Messrs. Geiger, Blakeslee, Beachley, Long, and Dunn, members, were most kind in their offerings of services and quarters in connection with the above.

DIRECTORS' MEETINGS—Eight Directors' Meetings were held at Harrisburg, State College, Butler, Williamsport, Camp Potato, Coudersport, Pittsburgh, and Williamsport, respectively, with a quorum being present at each meeting. It had been the plan of the directors to meet monthly at some central point. Due to transportation and war conditions this was not adhered to.

THE 400-BUSHEL CLUB—Twenty-seven reported having yields of 400 bushels or over during this 1942 season, 18 of which are eligible to medals. The varieties grown by these members are: 4 Sebagoes, 1 Chippewa, 8 Katahdins, 3 Green Mountains, and 10 Russet Rurals. The highest yield reported for the year was 617.6, being made by W. B. Krause, Lehigh County.

MISCELLANEOUS ACTIVITIES—Labor Union Difficulties: Conferences were held with Labor Union, City, Growers, and N.L.R.B. officials concerning the molesting of growers delivering potatoes in the central markets. The results of these conferences were very satisfactory, thanks to Messrs. Lohr and Schaulis of Somerset County.

O. P. A. and Price Ceilings: Conferences were held in Philadelphia, Harrisburg and Washington in the interest of potato growers and price ceilings. These resulted in our association being given a clean bill of health; this is, we were not included in the Temporary Order No. 22.

The Agricultural Situation: At the November meeting of the directors, it was considered advisable to make a study of the seriousness of the agricultural situation from the standpoint of labor, machinery, machinery repair, supplies, and morale. A committee, namely M. P. Whitenight, P. D. Frantz, E. L. Nixon, and C. F. H. Wuesthoff, was appointed to make this study and do something about it. It would be a long story if all the committee's activities were reported here. Suffice it to say conferences were held with officials of the metropolitan and rural press. Our plight was presented to them which definitely changed their attitude toward the farmer which was, needless to say, not good. We have definitely called our situation to the attention of the press and the public through the press so that in case there is a shortage of foodstuffs in 1943, it cannot be said that the farmer went on a "sit-down" strike. The responsibility has been placed upon the shoulders of the public and public agencies. We have consistently demanded simplification and coordination of restrictions.

Bills and Accounts: All bills, salaries, and accounts have been paid to date. A complete financial statement is attached to this report showing the standing of the association, which is particularly good at this time. All association properties have been covered by insurance and all employees protected by compensation insurance. Your Treasurer's Bond for $5,000 is in force. In conclusion I want personally to thank all members who have cooperated so well in the past 5 months. It has made the hard work involved most pleasant. I regret to say that it is most impossible to make a detailed report of all activities of 1942 since I only entered into the picture July 20th, 1942.

Respectfully submitted,

C. F. H. WUESTHOFF
Exec. Sec'y and Gen. Mgr.

FOOD IS MORE VITAL THAN EVER

We are anxious to be of Service to our MEMBERS and GROWERS. Don't hesitate to acquaint us with your difficult problems on LABOR and SUPPLIES and we'll FOLLOW THROUGH. Contact us.

MORE AND STILL MORE POTATOES

Department of Agricultures Official Announcement January 19, 1943

Why More Potatoes?

We need more potatoes. We've had high yields for the last few years, but we have no assurance that these high yields will continue. We want to make sure of getting enough potatoes to protect the national supply, even should there be a substantial drop in yield. A second reason is that increased potato production is wanted in the Northeast Region in an effort to avoid excessive transportation of bulky commodities to the great consuming centers. And here's a third reason: Potatoes could be used in a big way to substitute for other food crops should a poor growing year bring actual shortages. With normal yields, higher goal acreage would provide for increased use of potatoes and the supply would be sufficient to substitute in a substantial way for shortages in other crops.

The 1943 Potato Program

Secretary of Agriculture Claude R. Wickard has announced a production payment program designed to encourage potato planting. The national potato goal has been raised from 2,844,700 acres to 3,260,000 acres for 1943. This means a 1943 increase of 14 per cent over last year.

The new potato program offers farmers a payment of 50 cents a bushel on the normal yield of the acreage planted to potatoes in excess of 90 per cent of the individual farm goal, up to 110 per cent of the goal. The program will be effective on acreage planted after February 1.

Example:

5-Acre Goal x 110% = 5.5 Acres (Planted Acreage which will receive maximum payment); 5-Acre Goal x 90% = 4.5 Acres. 1.0 Acre x 100-bu. yield = 100 bu. x 50c = $50.00.

A support price is available to those growers who plant 90 per cent or more of their goals.

Goals will be available to growers who have not been growing potatoes if conditions on their farms are reasonably suitable for potato production. The smallest goal to be established for a farm is 3 acres. This program encourages a farmer to plant 110 per cent of his goal —but the higher his goal, the more benefit the farmer will get from the potato program.

Provision is being made to make available to growers of potatoes an adequate supply of approved grades of fertilizer for use at the customary rates of application for the producing area. A well-rounded program is being prepared to get all unused and out-of-repair machinery rounded up, repaired, and put into operation where it will do the most good.

Close Cooperation—It isn't the guns nor armaments, nor the funds that we can pay, but the close cooperation that makes us win today!

ALBERT C. ROEMHILD

All grades of potatoes handled to an advantage

122 Dock Street Philadelphia Lombard 1000

POTATO ACREAGE INFORMATION (NORTHEAST REGION)

For Use in Determining State Goals

1922 Harvested Acreage U. S.	3,901,000 Acres	
1942 Planted Acreage U. S.	2,793,400 Acres	
1943 Planted Acreage Goal U. S.	3,260,000 Acres	
1942 Harvested Acreage Northeast Region	516,300 Acres	
1943 Goal Planted Acreage Northeast Region	807,000 Acres	
1942 Planted Acreage Northeast Region	633,300 Acres	
Increase Needed Northeast Region	173,700 Acres	= 27.5 per cent Increase

State	Largest Acreage Harvested In Any One Year	Harvested Acreage 1928-1937	Planted Acreage 1942	Tentative Goal (In Acres) 1943	Per Cent Increase Over 1942 Per Cent	Average Increase Over 1942
Maine	170,000	169,000	156,000	185,000	18.5	29,000
New Hampshire	14,000	9,500	6,800	10,000	47.0	3,200
Vermont	26,000	16,800	11,600	16,000	40.0	4,400
Mass.	29,000	15,000	19,000	23,000	21.0	4,000
Rhode Island	5,000	3,200	5,000	6,000	20.0	1,000
Conn.	25,000	15,400	15,900	21,000	32.0	5,100
New York	340,000	236,000	195,000	235,000	20.5	40,000
New Jersey	95,000	46,000	56,000	70,000	25.0	14,000
Pennsylvania	308,000	213,000	167,000	211,000	26.3	44,000
Total		725,900	532,300	777,000	22.9	144,700

1942 Planted Acreage

11,000 Pennsylvania farms planted 3 acres or more potatoes totaling 89,000 acres
94,000 Pennsylvania farms planted less than 3 acres totaling ..... 78,000 acres
105,000 Pennsylvania farms planted a total of .....167,000 acres
To secure the increase of 44,000 acres on commercial farms would require a 49 per cent increase in planted acreage for 1943. To secure the increase of 44,000 acres on all farms would require a 26.3increase.

SPRAY and DUST

with

MILLARD MODERN LIMES

Rotary Kiln Products

Crop Protection - Service - Reasonable Cost

H. E. MILLARD

Phone 7-3231 **Annville, Pa.**

NEW AND RENEWALS — MEMBERSHIPS SINCE LAST ISSUE

John C. Thompson, Jr., Newtown
A. G. Riggle, Kelly Station
W. I. Brown, Meadville
L. A. McMichael, Conneaut Lake
C. H. Campbell, Penna. Furnace
Stanley E. Brown, Watertown, N. Y.
John K. Graham, Adams Mills, Ohio
C. Franklin Bishop, Morgantown, W. Va.
Charles Holtz, Hastings
Daniel G. Lindemuth, Catawissa
C. W. Williams, Nazareth
Lawrence D. Smale, Kunkletown
H. P. Yonkin, Dushore
Harold Osborn, Waterford
Arthur Jarrett, Horshorn
A. T. Larson, Kane
Lee Ellenberger, Penna. Furnace
S. Quay Overdorff, Indiana
W. D. Goughnour, Indiana
C. F. Abbott, Espy
Nathan Wanamaker, New Tripoli
Wilmer German, Slatington
Ellis G. Lichtenwalner, Macungie
G. G. Barnett & Son, Coudersport
Seiple Brothers, Bath
Myron Atwood, Kent, Ohio
John E. Bushey, Dillsburg
Harold Fehnel, Bath
Richard Honaberger, Elysburg
Austin J. Donaldson, Emlenton
Fred Thornton, Springboro
H. J. Haggerty, Hadley
Frank Brooks, Bellefonte
Harwood Martin, Honeoye Falls, N. Y.
W. S. Bishop, Doylestown
Edwin Westrick, Patton
H. C. Kearns, Stewartstown
D. M. Bartron, Tunkhannock
Robert W. Lohr, Boswell
Oscar L. Hostetter, Thomasville
William J. McCormick, Philadelphia
Jack S. Grimison, Glenside
Harry Brown, Port Allegany
Barrie Wilson, Union City
J. A. Bausch, Fairview
Clark C. Pollock, Marion Center
Eugene Fetterman, Catawissa
Haskell Kunes, Keewaydin
Homer P. Koenig, Slatington
Reuben H. Ringer, Schnecksville
Raymond Hoffman, Slatington
Geo. D. Henninger, Bath
Walter Atwood, Kent, Ohio
T. S. Ingram, Corry
C. J. Bushey, Dillsburg
Howard H. Silfies, Danielsville
Harry Poorbaugh, Pottsville

Clayton E. Snyder, Neffs
E. R. Royer, Lancaster
Jess Stoltzfus, Elverson
K. W. Lauer, Harrisburg
Geo. A. Stewart, New York, N. Y.
Lester Lohr, Boswell
A. L. Hacker, Allentown
Earl Hunsicker, Bath
J. C. Schuldt, Elizabethtown
J. K. Wolgemuth, Mt. Joy
Harold A. Doub, Reinertown
Dewey Scheller, Kunkletown
Russell S. Uhler, Bangor
Marshall Jones, Westtown
Millard Shoup, Elverson
W. J. Sickel, Philadelphia
Mrs. Rose Murren, Hanover
Elvin R. Huntsinger, Hegins
L. E. Sentz, Felton
G. C. Morgan & Son, Eaton Rapids, Mich.
John Gerhard & Son, Orwigsburg
H. J. Evans, Georgetown, N. Y.
Hickory Township High School, New Castle
John Yost, Orefield
W. S. Hamme, York
A. J. Troyer, Smithville, Ohio
D. A. Miller, Red Lion
Martin G. Baer, Slatington
Mr. Harry Miller, Glen Rock
J. C. Brubaker, Lititz
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Andrew Bolish, Wetherly
J. Earl Martin, Mt. Joy
John Leonard, Philadelphia
Elwyn Training School, Elwyn
A. C. Ramseyer, Smithville, Ohio
Amos W. Martin, Ephrata
Arlen F. Seltzer, Ringtown
K. K. McCreary, Volant Park
Stephen Stimpfl, Slatington
R. W. Steber, Warren
Warren A. Herber, Slatington
Fern Aurand, Lewistown

Geo. T. Baxter, Farmington
P. Daniel Frantz, Coplay
Prescott C. Cox, Adams Mills
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Philip C. Antes, Williamsport
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C. R. Ritter, Stony Creek Mills
Guy S. Reed, Summit Station
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J. H. Beck, Liberty
Willard Kistler, New Tripoli
J. Mont McGinnis, Stewartstown
Wm. A. Marsteller, Stewartstown
H. A. Reiley, Cadillac, Mich.
Chas. B. Geiger, Saegersville
Lynn Sill, Corry
Albert B. Carey, Audubon, N. J.
Paul S. Hiestand, Marietta
Albert C. Roemhild, Philadelphia
C. A. Zehner, Harrisburg
Chas. C. Waltz, Trout Run
Herman L. Bashore, Annville
R. B. Stutzman, Cramer
Paul C. Gehman, Wescovsville
Eldwood Brader, Schnecksville
Jos. Fisher, Holsopple
Johnson Bros., Penna. Furnace
Calvin Will, Somerset
Eli W. Martin, New Holland
Amos S. Eberly, New Holland
Leon Epler, Northumberland
Harold Henninger, Allentown
A. J. Henninger, Allentown
Frank H. Krause, Germansville
John G. Reiniger, Stony Creek Mills
John A. Noel, Ebensburg
Hugh McPherson, Bridgeton
F. A. Brion, Liberty
Elwood Handwork, Germansville
Frank Knerr, Bridgeton
Kenneth Bowman, Fawn Grove
R. A. Butterwick, Allentown
A. D. Bonitz, Harrisburg
Clinton J. Geiger, Neffs
S. L. Horst, Norristown
Ira H. Zimmerman, Carlisle
D. M. Jones, Camp Hill
Ed. Malley, Long Island City, N. Y.
Elmer J. Waltz, Montoursville
N. J. Bashore, Palmyra
F. Donald Patterson, Kirkwood
Guy Stutzman, Indiana
Myron Parson, Hellertown
Robert E. Peter, Germansville

F. J. Lindner, Ringtown
Joseph Hartman, York
Jos. Schwaubenbauer, St. Marys
Sherman Morrison, New Enterprise
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Wm. B. Krause, Slatington
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Wm. N. Harmony, Allentown
Joseph Keating, Dushore
Robert Yonkin, Dushore
Morgan Yonkin, Dushore
Lloyd S. Lerch, Northampton
J. C. Reiman, Berlin
Harry Weaver, Mahaffey
H. R. Snoberger, New Enterprise
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Raymond Gibble, Myerstown
Lee Grumbine, Myerstown
Allen Horst, Sheridan
J. Morris Horst, Lebanon
Joseph K. Kreider, Lebanon
George Lentz, Lebanon
Rufus Meyer, Sheridan
John Merkey, Lebanon
Phares Nolt, Lebanon
Henry Patches, Lebanon
Harry A. Reesor, Lebanon
Charles Smith, Lebanon
Isaac Patches, Lebanon
Charles Weiss, Avon
Louis Haskins, Coudersport
Howard Bamberger, Lebanon
Wayne Dubble, Myerstown
John Gibble, Myerstown
Miles Horst, Palmyra
Henry Heffelfinger, Myerstown
J. Mark Kreider, Lebanon
A. J. Kleinfelter, Lebanon
Morris Meyer, Lebanon
Albert D. Miller, Lebanon
Mrs. John Smith, Lebanon
Howard Patches, Lebanon
Robert B. Royer, Lebanon
Harvey Smith, Lebanon
Andrew Seyfert, Lebanon
Paul Wolff, Myerstown
Samuel Wenger, Rexmont

THE FARMER AND THE ARMY

Talk on the importance of food to the fighting forces by Lt.-Col. Ward B. Cleaves, Commandant, Bakers and Cooks School, Camp Lee, Virginia, before Penna. Coop. Potato Growers, Harrisburg on Farm Mobilization Day, January 12, 1943.

Two disasters that may lead to surrender or death can befall an American soldier on the battlefield.

One is an empty gun. The other is an empty mess plate. Without ammunition, he is defenseless. Without food, he is equally defenseless.

You can't fight very long with an empty gun and you can't fight very long on an empty stomach.

The Army looks to the workers in the arsenals and munitions factories of America to keep the ammunition belts full. No one else can fill that gap.

The Army looks to the farmers of America to keep food piled on the mess plates. No one but the farmers can fill those plates.

We in the Army are deeply grateful to you farmers for the job you have done so far. The 1942 production record of the American farmer was heartening news to every man in uniform. We also realize the job ahead of you in 1943 will present many grave difficulties.

The United States Army could not sponsibility it is to see that the United have been built to its present size without calling many men from the farm. We couldn't build enough ships and tanks without taking some of the steel you could use for new machinery.

Such things are part of the price we must pay for victory. This Farm Mobilization Day meeting means that farmers are preparing for their battles and preparing to win. In this total war, farmers and soldiers are brothers in arms.

Food is one of our most powerful weapons in this war of survival against our Jap and Nazi challengers.

FOOD MORE VITAL THAN EVER

We are anxious to serve our Growers—Consult our Offices if you have critical LABOR and SUPPLIES problem.

C. F. H. Wuesthoff, Exec. Sec.

Protecting America's "Food for Victory"

LETHANE 60. Used by your dust mixer to fortify botanical dusts. Replaces part of the rotenone or pyrethrum, stretches this country's supply of these imported botanicals, holds down cost. Yet you get a better, faster-killing dust. Look for the LETHANE 60 emblem on the tag when you buy rotenone or pyrethrum dust.

***Yellow* CUPROCIDE Spray.** Contains over 80% copper; only 1½ lbs. make 100 gals. spray at a cost comparable to Bordo. Gives you excellent blight control with no lime burn, no messy mixing. Can be used with rotenone or pyrethrum. *Yellow* CUPROCIDE is non-corrosive, saves on machinery repairs, lessens clogging of nozzles.

CUPROCIDE Dust. Made by your dust mixer with *Yellow* CUPROCIDE. Doesn't require moisture—dust day or night. Contains no lime to burn your skin or reduce crop yield. The billions of copper particles in each pound of dust stick tight and protect your crop from blight. To get CUPROCIDE Dust, look for this emblem on the tag:

LETHANE *and* CUPROCIDE *are trade-marks, Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.*

THIS DUST CONTAINS LETHANE 60 AN INSECTICIDE CONCENTRATE MADE BY ROHM & HAAS COMPANY

THIS DUST CONTAINS CUPROCIDE A FUNGICIDE MADE BY ROHM & HAAS COMPANY

ROHM & HAAS COMPANY

WASHINGTON SQUARE, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

Manufacturers of LETHANE 60 and CUPROCIDE

Anything that contributes in any way to the feeding, supplying and upkeep of the United States Army, destined soon to number 7,500,000 men, is of vital importance.

And that explains why I am here speaking to you today, as the representative of the War Department whose responsibility it is to see that the United States Army continues to be the best equipped, best clad, best fed army in the world.

History is replete with the record of lost battles—battles lost by starving armies.

On the battlefield, a soldier must be strong and fit. His body must be like the body of a trained athlete, and if it is, you needn't worry about his morale.

That soldier must endure blistering heat, knee-deep mud, the bitter cold that comes after nightfall, the wind and the rain. He must carry loads of 60 pounds or more on his back. He must crawl through brambles and barbed wire.

He has no house nor shelter and day and night he may be subjected to a ceaseless barrage of bombs and bullets. What sleep he gets, he snatches when and where he may.

You men and women know hard work. Now, think of the hardest day's work you ever put in in all your life, and you'll know what every day of combat is like for a soldier on the battlefield. Not one day, but day after day.

The nervous and physical punishment he undergoes is terrific.

There is only one means to keep his poor, tired body going and keep building and rebuilding his stamina. Food is that means.

The American soldier eats about 5½ pounds of food every day, compared to the average of 4 pounds eaten by civilians.

Today the armed forces of our country are buying, inspecting, shipping, storing, issuing, cooking and serving over 15,000 tons of food daily, at a cost of about $2,750,000 per day.

It is a tremendous job. It is a job which leads straight back to only one source—the American farmer.

The soldier on the battlefield has many teammates behind the front line, teammates upon whom he is dependent, but the closest of all his teammates is the farmer.

Without the farmer, we Americans simply could not have picked up the Jap challenge at Pearl Harbor and flung it back into the face of Tojo and all the tribe of Tojo.

Without the farmer, we Americans would have had to bow our heads to the so-called "New Order" of Adolf Hitler and submitted ourselves to the shackles of the Nazi tyrants.

It would have done no good to start raising a mighty Army on the foundations of our little peacetime garrison, an Army that was smaller even than Switzerland's.

It would have done no good to start building a 2-ocean Navy that even now is fighting on all the seven seas.

It would have done no good to transform America's vast peacetime industry into one great, roaring forge of war.

All that would have been in vain, without the farmer's fighting assistance.

From the soil of America must come the crops to sustain the sons of America who fight on land, on sea and in the air.

You are the planters and the harvesters of those crops. We of the Army depend on you.

But the American farmer is more than that today. He is the principal sustaining force behind all the United Nations, behind all our allies in this war.

Your harvest of last year is helping to sustain the Russians in their magnificent counter-offensive against Hitler's invading legions. The British 8th Army, snapping at the heels of Rommel's retreating Nazis in North Africa, are being fed with dried eggs and milk, canned pork, cheese and concentrated orange juice from the United States.

Hogs from Iowa, beef from Texas, wheat from Minnesota, apples from Oregon, peaches from California, potatoes from Maine are being eaten today not only by American soldiers but by their comrades in arms in the other United Nations armies.

Each month we ship around 400 million pounds of food to our allies. Planes, tanks and guns aren't the only weapons we put into their hands against the common enemy.

We are furnishing them with food, the weapons you grow, and the Japs and Nazi soldiers our allies kill are Jap and Nazi soldiers who will never oppose the soldier sons of America.

Nor must we overlook the food we ship to lands whose hungry populations may be wavering between friendship for the Axis and friendship for our-

selves. It has helped to tip the scales in our favor.

Up to September 1, 1942, more than 3,300,000 tons of U. S. foodstuffs had been laid down at American ports, ready for shipment to the United Nations. U-boats sank some of that cargo but the bulk of it got through.

Around 18 per cent of that great tonnage, gathered from all sections of our country, was eggs and dairy products; 17 per cent was meat, fish and fowl; 15 per cent was fruits, vegetables and nuts; 10 per cent was lard, oil and fats; 25 per cent was grain and cereals.

In all such foreign shipments, we lay stress upon the use of dehydrated foods to save shipping space.

The Army Quartermaster Corps has found that it can stow two tons of dehydrated sweet potatoes in the same ship space which would hold less than half a ton of the canned variety.

But merely to feed our own American troops on foreign battle fronts and at their foreign bases is a gigantic task.

When our Army, as a whole, reaches a strength of 7,500,000 men, its rations for one month would make a pile of food nearly as big as the 102-story Empire State Building in New York.

At the beginning of 1943, we had about 1,500,000 fighting men outside this country. In one day, those 1,500,000 men consume about 4200 tons of food. Think of it, 4200 tons of food daily!

And that can't be all one kind of ration. The type of food suitable for a soldier fighting in jungles and desert won't do for the soldier fighting in high altitudes or sub-zero climates. Just keeping that little item straight gives the men in the Quartermaster Corps grey hair.

The Army relies on farmers for a lot of other things besides food, too. Your soybeans make the glycerine that fires out anti-tank shells. Oil from your castor beans softens the linings of Army shoes. Cotton goes into our liferafts, our raincoats, our explosives and the tires for our jeeps, ambulances and trucks. Wool makes our uniforms. Even in an 80 mm. gun mount, there's enough wool to make a woman's skirt. Your peanuts provide cooking oils, thereby releasing other oils for explosives. Your flax provides the linseed oil in paints to camouflage our encampments and protect tanks and guns from rust. Your grains are going into synthetic rubber for a hundred military uses.

There are other food requirements for war, too, such as the needs of civilians in the war factories. The army knows very well these requirements are all a part of the war it fights at the battle-front.

Without an alert and energetic citizenry at home, we'd soon find our Army short of the essential weapons of war.

Without well-fed allies, we would be engaged in a single-handed struggle with all the Axis powers all around the globe and the war would be prolonged by years.

That's why civilian supply and the 5 billion pounds of foodstuffs purchased for lend-lease shipments in the past year are of direct interest to the Army.

EUREKA MOWER COMPANY
Potato Machinery **Babcock WEED HOG** **Spring Tooth Harrows**
COCKSHUTT PLOW COMPANY
Moldboard Plows **Manure Spreaders** **Disc Plows** **Grain Drills**
FROST AND WOOD COMPANY
Hay Machinery **Harvesting Machinery**
CUTAWAY HARROW COMPANY
Disc Harrows
DUANE H. NASH
District Representative
HADDONFIELD, NEW JERSEY

We've come a long way since Pearl Harbor but we have a long way yet to go.

This is the year when our men and our machines will meet sterner tests on the battlefield than they have ever met before. The same holds true for the American farmer and the machines of the American farmer.

Labor is scarce, gasoline is scarce, it is hard to get farm machinery; yet the farmer is called upon to produce more this year than he ever produced before.

An extra acre planted, an extra cow milked, an extra hatch of chickens, an extra hog in the pen—these are ways in which the American farmer will meet the battle test of 1943.

He saw his country through the last war—and his sons helped trim the Kaiser brand of Germans.

He's seeing his country through this war—and his sons are helping right now to beat the Nazi brand of Germans and their Jap stooges into inevitable defeat.

We'll have black days on the battlefield.

We'll have black days in the harvest field.

But when the final score is posted, those Japs and Nazis will find that we can outproduce 'em and out-fight 'em, too.

Together, we'll lick that bunch of barbarians to a fare-thee-well.

PENNSYLVANIA SEED FOR SALE

For Sale: Size B Maine (Certified) Katahdins, Certified Pontiacs, Warbas, Russetts, North Dakota Cobblers, Bliss Triump, etc. Carloads and less. Ed. A. Trexler, Trexler, Penna.

For Sale: Russetts, Size B, Chippewas, Allegheny Mountains, Certified 1941, one year removed from certification. Beck Brothers, Liberty, Tioga County, Penna.

For Sale: Certified Chippewas. Also 100 bushel Senseas rogued but not certified. Leigh Neefe, R. No. 1, Coudersport, Penna.

POTATO GROWERS MUST "CARRY ON"

Increases are essential to "Winning the War." We dare not "let the boys down." Difficulties are in the way but this is WAR.

C. F. H. Wuesthoff, Secretary

(Continued from page fifteen)

of at least one acre, and I have already started keeping records on 275 of my father's laying hens.

My project's financial summary is as follows:

Expenses			
Seed		$31.25	
Fertilizer 500 lb.		12.50	
Spray Materials		30.44	
Rental of Land		5.00	
Rental of equipment		1.45	
			$ 80.64
Packing and Marketing			72.00
Labor			
Self	33 1/3 hrs.	6.67	
Other Man Labor	31 5/6 hrs.	9.67	
Power	15 1/2 hrs.	14.19	
			30.53
		Total	$183.17

Total Receipts	$519.80
Total Expenses	183.17
Profit	336.63
Self Labor	6.67
Labor Income	343.30

Receipts				
Potatoes	422 bu.	@	1.25	$519.80

—E. V. G.

Large Scale Production

Maple Lawn Farms of the McPherson Bros., Bridgeton, Pa. grow enough potatoes to feed 1.080,000 men five daily servings; enough beans to supply 6,000,000 for a day; enough eggs for 175,000 men's breakfast of two eggs; and enough fruit for a day's requirements of 500,000 men.

A. C. Romseyer's of Smithville, Ohio production of 350,000 bushels of potatoes will supply 8,000,000 men a day's ration of potatoes.

Bob Lohr of Somerset County supplied 140.000 turkey dinners together with 60,000 potato servings in 1942.

This list can be added to from time to time. It might impress the alphabetical agencies and administrators. Whether there shall be food for metropolitan centers, Lend-Lease and the military forces rests upon the farmer. If he is **unshackled** he can produce all that is necessary. In any event, the farmer will hardly go hungry himself.

QUIZ PROGRAM ON PRODUCTION PRACTICES AT HARRISBURG MEETING POPULAR

Junior Growers and Future Farmers Compete With Veteran Growers

Feeling that all the attention should not be given to perplexing problems facing the potato grower brought on by changing conditions due to the war, a morning session of the Annual Meeting at Harrisburg was given over to consideration of annual production practices.

Two good reasons were stated for doing this, namely, First—that we were dealing with a food declared essential to winning the war and that the best possible practices must be followed to secure maximum or increased production. The second reason was the need of keeping these sound practices before our Junior Growers who must fill the ranks where our older growers falter or drop out of rank.

Keen interest was developed by presenting this phase of the program in quiz form. When the program got under way the room was only partially filled but before the hour was up the room was filled to overflowing. Everyone had a chance to participate in the solution or answer to a list of debatable perplexing problems that annually confronts the potato grower. The size of seed piece to plant, the depth to plant, when to make the first spray, etc. Naturally there was not full agreement on the part of the audience nor was there a complete unity within the teams made up of Veteran Growers, Junior Growers, and Future Farmers. Even the Judges, Nixon, Ramseyer, Frantz, and Donaldson were in doubt at times requiring lengthy consultation before handing down a decision.

To set the stage for some keen competition on the correct answer between Veteran Growers, Junior Growers, and a team of Future Farmers the following teams were chosen:

Veteran Growers

Joe Fisher, Somerset County
Ivan Miller, Erie County
Phil Antes, Lycoming County
Amos Eberly, Lancaster County
Percy Whitenight, Columbia County

Junior Growers

Louis (Bud) Bailey, Centre County
Leo Stout, Potter County
Harold Henninger, Lehigh County
Dan Keener, Lehigh County
Elwood Handwerk, Lehigh County

Future Farmers

Calvin Will, Somerset County
Darlin Hay, Somerset County
Leon Knepper, Somerset County
Clair Reiman, Somerset County
Ernest Geiger, Lehigh County
Harold Rex, Lehigh County

The members of each team grouped themselves together and went into a huddle like a football team calling signals to arrive at the proper size of seed piece, the proper spacing to plant, when to make the first spray, etc. The judges as all good judges do, sat on the bench and handed down the final decision. The audience also had its play as a vote of the audience was taken on all questions after the teams had turned in their decision.

Each question was read and the figures placed on the blackboard where they could be plainly studied. The first question was:

What size seed piece would you use if you had a good clover sod, applied 1000 lbs. of fertilizer, used cut seed of the Katahdin variety, planting around May 1, under favorable conditions? Would you cut to: ¾ ounce, 1 ounce, 1¼ ounce, 1½ ounce, 2 ounce, 2½ ounce? There was general agreement by the teams on 1½ ounces with the judges concurring. The audience also gave this size the largest vote.

Some fifteen questions were covered in the hour with the team of Veteran Growers having the best of it. However, it must be said, with much credit due them, that the Junior team and the Fu-

(Continued on page thirty)

PLANNING WARTIME POTATO PRODUCTION

(Continued from page nine)

out excess moisture on days (or nights) when the outside temperature is lower than that inside, but not too low. They can often be left open all day, even when it is a little below freezing, with little danger if the air does not blow directly on the potatoes; and extended periods are necessary to materially lower the temperature and dry out large bins or piles. If more storages could be kept below 40 degrees all winter there would be less sprouted and wilted seed and more vigorous stands. Seed can be kept at a lower temperature than is desirable for table stock.

With good seed scarce and high there will be a temptation to cut it small and this can be easily overdone. The larger the seed piece the larger will usually be the yield, but somewhere between 1½ and 2 ounces will generally be about right. To save time at planting one may safely cut seed some time ahead if he knows how to keep it from drying out or heating and how to get it properly corked over, and is careful to do as well as he knows. Otherwise the best plan is to get the cut seed into the moist, cool ground with as little delay and drying as possible. Poor stands are often traceable to allowing cut seed to stand around in the sun and drying wind for only an hour or more.

(Continued next month)

GROWER TO GROWER EXCHANGE

Wanted: 8 or 10 row potato sprayer in good condition. Austin J. Donaldson, Emlenton, R. No. 1, Penna.

For Sale: Bean Super Giant Junior Pump as used on Model 850-P. Sprayer useful for parts. One Cletrac E. 62 Cultivator used two seasons. J. L. Reitz, Lewisburg, Penna. Box 302

For Sale: 5400—60 lb. Double Walled Paper Sack—Red Label—Good For Seed Storage, etc. Call 2-2046 Williamsport—Office of Penna. Coop. Potato Growers Association.

Wanted: 2 Copies Dr. E. L. Nixon's book on Potato Production—will pay $2.00. Secretary — Penna. Coop. Potato Growers Association.

Certified

SEED POTATOES

A well planned potato program requires the planting of vigorous seed. Seed of this quality is the product of fields having strong healthy vines which were properly cared for, cautiously rogued, and grown in a proven section where soil and climate assure this essential. Knowledge of foundation stock, general field appearance, and bin inspections influence our recommendations of specific crops to meet this requirement.



MAINE

Cobblers — Mountains
Katahdins — Sebagos

MICHIGAN

Russets — Mountains

Safe and dependable sources produced by leading growers. High quality certified seed only slightly increases planting costs but has a marked effect on yield and income. Wire or write for prices.

Dougherty Seed Growers
WILLIAMSPORT PENNA.

(Continued from page twenty-eight)

ture Farmers were running neck and neck not far behind. The entire list of questions, with the answers arrived at, follows. (The heavy type indicates the considered conclusion of the judges.) Those without heavy type were not presented. What would be your decision on them?

1. SIZE OF SEED PIECE:
   Clover sod, 1000 pounds of fertilizer, cut seed—Katahdin, May 1 planting under favorable conditions.
   ¾ oz. 1 oz. 1¼ oz. **1½ oz.** 2 oz. 2½ oz.

2. SPACING OF SEED:
   Clover sod, 1000 pounds of fertilizer, cut seed, rows 32 in. apart, Katahdin—May 1 planting under favorable conditions. Maximum Blue Label production.
   7 in. 9 in. **12 in.** 14 in. 16 in. 20 in.

3. DEPTH OF PLANTING:
   Sandy soil, May 1 planting under favorable conditions.
   2 in. 3 in. **4 in.** 5 in. 6 in.

4. CONTROL OF WEEDS:
   When would you use the weeder?
   Adequate moisture but not wet conditions.
   Dormant weed seed - weed seed just sprouted - **weeds showing above ground but not green** - first leaves and roots - two inches high - 6 inches high.

5. TIME OF FIRST SPRAY:
   Favorable cultivating condition - ¼ of plants up - **¾ of plants up** - 4 in. high - 10 in. high - 15 in. high

6. DEPTH OF FIRST CULTIVATION:
   Favorable cultivations - plants small, nicely able to follow rows.
   1 in. 2 in. 3 in. 4 in. **5 in.** 6 in. 8 in. 10 in.

7. CLOSENESS OF FIRST CULTIVATION:
   Favorable cultivating conditions - plants small, nicely able to follow rows.
   1 in. 2 in. 3 in. 4 in. **5 in.** 6 in.

8. WEEDING EARLY VARIETIES:
   Cobblers, Nittanys, Chippewas. When would you quit?
   When 2 in. 4 in. 6 in. 8 in. 10 in. **12 in. 15 in.**

9. HILLING KATAHDINS:
   Planted 4 in. deep.
   level - 2 in. ridge - **4 in. ridge** - 6 in. ridge - 10 in.

10. CONDITION OF SEED:
    What is ideal?
    No sprouts - First sign of sprouts - 1 in. - 2 in. - 6 in.

11. POSITION OF PLANTER HITCH:
    Tractor hitch. What should be the position of tongue?
    Sloping downward - level - slightly upward - sharply upward

12. DEPTH OF PLANTING:
    Heavy soil, May 1 planting favorable condition.
    1 in. 2 in. **3 in.** 4 in. 5 in. 6 in. 8 in.

13. SELECTION OF SEED:
    Which is best seed?
    Disease counts are field readings.
    Disease 1%, Yield **200 bu.**—Disease 5%, Yield 600 bu.—Diesase 8%, Yield 400 bu.—Disease 10%, Yield 250 bu.—Disease 15%, Yield 150 bu.

14. NEW VARIETIES:
    Which of the following varieties were developed at Camp Potato, Potter County, Pa., by Dr. Nixon?
    Katahdin - Pontiac - **Pocono** - Chippewa - **Allegheny Mt.** - Sebago - **Nittany** - Houma - Sequoi

15. SPRAY PRESSURE:
    Mid season spraying — 150 gallons per acre.
    200 lb. 300 lb. **400 lb.** 500 lb. 600 lb. 700 lb.

16. SEED PIECE DECAY:
    Which will stand the most adversity of soil condition?
    Whole seed (seconds) - seconds cut once - large seed cut large - large seed cut small.

17. BLIGHT TEMPERATURE:
    30 degrees - 50 degrees - 70 degrees - 90 degrees

18. SELECTION OF SEED:
    Disease reading from field.
    Disease 10%, Condition 5% rot—
    Disease 2%, Condition sprouted—
    Disease 3%, Condition firm—Disease 15%, Condition frosted.

EQUITABLE PAPER BAG

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POTATO SACKS

FERTILIZER BAGS

And all other types of heavy duty pasted bottom paper sacks

Equitable is GENERAL HEADQUARTERS for bags of superior quality and construction because we operate our own paper mill and control every step of the manufacture from the pulp to the finished bag.

Our wide variety of bag sizes and styles makes us able to supply the proper bag for every need—

Avail yourself of the free service of our Art and Research staffs on your specific problem.

EQUITABLE PAPER BAG CO. INC.

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Paper Mills at Orange, Texas



CHECK IRON AGE BEFORE STORING

Frank H. Hamm and his son, Clark of New Tripoli, Lehigh County, Pennsylvania, check over their Iron Age 2 row Automatic Potato Planter before they store it for the winter. They carefully cleaned the fertilizer hopper, cleaned and oiled all moving parts and lubricated the wheels. They can be sure their planter will be in tip top shape for the new season. Mr. Hamm and his son farm 98 acres, 28 of which they plant in potatoes. He has been farming for nearly 30 years and has always been a great booster for Iron Age equipment. He particularly appreciates the increased yields and savings in scarce fertilizer made possible by the Band Way method. America is fighting an all out war—a war in which food is as important as ammunition. The time saving equipment you now have *must* last. Keep what you have in the best shape you can

Farquhar

PLANTERS DIGGERS IRON AGE SPRAYERS DUSTERS

A. B. FARQUHAR CO., Limited, YORK, PA.

VISION OF PENNSYLVANIA GROWERS

THE GUIDE POST

VOLUME XX NUMBER 2

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This Continent Was Won On Pork And Boiled Potatoes

—Courtesy of the Sun-Bulletin, Williamsport



FEBRUARY « » 1943

Published by the

PENNSYLVANIA COOPERATIVE POTATO GROWERS ASSOCIATION

INCORPORATED



POTASH GROWS NITROGEN

Successful potato growers have found the value and importance of turning under good stands of legumes to supply organic matter and nitrogen for their potatoes. Under the present conditions of limited nitrogen fertilizer supplies, this becomes a vital consideration in making potato goals.

Good stands of well-fertilized legumes will take from the air and return to the soil more than 100 pounds of fixed nitrogen per acre. To have the plants operate at full capacity and efficiency, a balanced fertility program providing for lime, phosphate, and potash must be followed. Since legumes are greedy feeders on potash and remove large amounts of it from the soil, this nutrient is very important in "growing your own nitrogen" for the following crop or grass-legume pastures.

If you are in doubt as to the fertility of your soil, consult your official agricultural authorities regarding soil tests and proper fertilization. Write us for free information and literature.

More Potash means More Profit

American Potash Institute

INCORPORATED

1155 16th ST., N. W. WASHINGTON, D. C.

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COMPLETE COOPERATIVE SERVICE

By G. W. LEE, Manager of the Hastings Potato Growers Association, Hastings, Florida.

A study of early American agriculture reveals the fact that agriculture, like all other industries of this nation, developed from a most humble beginning. The early settlers who came to this country engaged in agriculture for the major purpose of providing food, shelter, and in most instances, clothing for themselves and their families. Demands for these necessities of life motivated the action of the early farmers.

Out of the evolution of the American way of life we have developed a highly specialized agricultural industry. Geographic location, climatic conditions, and soil adaptability have been the determining factors in changing rural American life from a subsistence program to a highly industrialized and commercialized industry. Today, the average American farmer, instead of producing as many or as nearly all of the absolute necessities of life as he can, is now engaged in a highly commercialized industry. Today where it is practiced, the production of food, shelter and clothing is an incident to, rather than a major objective of agricultural endeavor.

"Cooperative Way" Grows Out of Essential Need

Because of the factors mentioned above—climate, adaptability of soil, and geographic location—certain sections of the country are specializing in the production of various crops. The deep South and the Pacific Coast furnish the nation's winter fruit and vegetable supplies. The west central and northern sections have become the nation's breadbasket. The East, because of its geographical proximity to the center of the populations of the nation, has become the major producer of dairy and poultry products, while the South and the central West furnish the fibre and wool for our clothing. A variety of other crops are grown in all of these sections, but in practically every section of the United States highly commercialized special agricultural crops have been developed. Today, modern agriculture is highly commercialized. The average farmer produces a major crop, from the sale of which he hopes to provide his family with the essentials of life which he originally produced himself.

Many of these changes have been forced upon the farmer because of the fact that economically he must attempt to meet other industries which determine to a very great degree his success or failure, on an equal footing, industrially and commercially. The American farmer today is surrounded by highly specialized industrial phases, all of which affect him economically in his daily existence. To compete successfully it has become absolutely essential that farmers organize themselves and industrialize their enterprises to maintain the economic balance of life. Many approaches to this problem have been studied and tried by the individual farmer working independently, and by groups working collectively. Out of these experimentations has grown the "cooperative way."

The earliest phases of cooperative endeavor were generally restricted to one particular line of agricultural effort, and the major problem of group con-

cern. The principle cooperative efforts have been directed towards the marketing of farm products, the purchase of raw materials in the way of supplies and, in recent years, the financing of production capital. Varying degrees of success have been attained through these various cooperative endeavors, depending upon certain controlling factors which are essential to the success of any cooperative effort.

Adequate Volume Underlies Cooperative Success

Of recent years it has been found that by grouping these phases of cooperative effort, farmers have been able to better their economic condition and meet the highly specialized industrial conditions which affect so vitally their well-being. The scope of the phases covered in cooperative efforts must be determined by the needs of their particular locality. The marketing of farm products is applicable in practically all farm localities. The purchase of supplies, whether seed, fertilizer, containers, or other essentials to agricultural industry, is also applicable in almost all localities. Operating capital for industry is necessary, and the same thing applies to agriculture. So, in determining a complete cooperative service the major needs of agriculture in any particular community will determine the scope of service which may be rendered by a cooperative. In most cases, however, those three major services above referred to are found to be applicable—namely, marketing of farm produce, purchase of supplies, and operating capital.

In many localities where either one or the other of the above phases of cooperative endeavor has been attempted, it has resulted in failure because, among other things, of a lack of sufficient volume. Of recent years many farm groups have learned that by extending the service of their cooperative they have been able to maintain a cooperative unit, economically sound, and render a full service to their membership. This is especially true in communities where the volume offered by either one of the major services referred to is not of sufficient volume to justify the employment of capable managers and employees to manage the business of the cooperative successfully. On the other hand, by extending the service and broadening it to meet the requirements of the community, it has been found that a very efficient service can be rendered.

Constructive Suggestions, Not Criticism, Co-op Need

Much has been said about the difficulty in employing capable help where the volume was limited and the service rendered dual in nature. It has been said that very few salesmen are good credit men or capable of advising wisely in the purchase of supplies. No doubt, there is truth to this line of thought; on the contrary, I do not feel that these objections are insurmountable. The same sound fundamental business principles, if applied to cooperative effort, will prove as successful as when applied to independent or individual enterprise. Probably entirely to much criticism has been directed toward inefficient cooperative management and too little directed toward inefficient independent enterprise. It is observed that in most instances farmers in affiliating themselves with a cooperative direct too much of their thinking toward criticism of the personnel of their employees and too little toward constructive and helpful suggestions in the management of their business. Briefly they scrutinize and investigate carefully the merits and demerits of the cooperative with which they are considering affiliating themselves.

These same producers, on the other hand, have gone on from year to year, in many instances, having the products of their farm marketed by independent operators whose incompetence is colossal; nor, in selecting new independent operators for the handling of their produce, do they make the slightest investigation of the honesty, integrity or general ability of the independent operator in whose hands they expect to place their produce. Should producers in almost any locality analyze, in the same critical manner, the capability, honesty and integrity of the independent operator who has for years rendered them the service which they expect of their cooperative no doubt, in many instances, they would find the same reasons for criticisms which they so often find in the services rendered by their cooperative.

Much has been said about the independence and the rugged individualism of the American farmer. It has been said that the greatest handicap in or-

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KNOW Your OFFICERS and DIRECTORS

— 1943 —

A cooperative association in its truest sense requires that each member participate in the activities and business of its organization. It is contended that membership confidence radiates from the membership through its directors to its officers. Unless the officers and directors are well known and outstanding in the past and present achievements, it is difficult to expect membership support. The directors of the Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers are all men who have done big things and are in a fair way to doing bigger things at a time when we need men and leadership. Their vast business experiences in farming and industry, their interest in community activities, their tireless work in behalf of the Potato Industry all argues well for any directorate upon which they might be called to serve. In response to repeated requests and questions we are pleased to present to the membership a brief inside story of cooperative personalities, the legislative and directive body of the most unusual and unique cooperative in the country today. "By their fruits, ye shall know them" Matthew 7:20.

— OUR PRESIDENT —



M. P. Whitenight, Bloomsburg, Columbia County, has been speaking for the potato interest in the northeastern section of the state since 1934. He was one of the prime movers in the early days when our marketing system was in the making. He sincerely believes that the Pennsylvania Potato Interests are on the "up and up" but is somewhat pessimistic about the present handicaps to production. Men, Machines and Materials, must be forthcoming before he can recommend an "all out" production program. Potato Growers are looking to "Percy" for guidance and leadership. Past experience in the state legislature on Agricultural Committees in the machinery business, and on his farm, gives him an understanding that will be most valuable to this Cooperative. In 1942 he produced 65 acres of potatoes that he markets the "Co-op Way". He hopes to repeat in 1943. Percy is also a 400-Bushel Club member of long standing. Percy lends poise and dignity to the directorship.

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT



Director P. Daniel Frantz, Coplay, has represented the middle east counties for six years. President of our Co-operative in 1939 and again in 1942. He has done and is doing an outstanding job as spokesman for potato growers for Pennsylvania, east, central and west, as well as the industry nationally. Distributors and Producers alike respect his judgment and perseverance. It's "P.D." here and "P.D." there. His business school and experiences have been most valuable. He has been a 400-Bushel Club member since 1927. Vice-President and Treasurer of the County Agricultural Extension Association and a 7th Degree Granger. In 1942 he grew, with the help of his two married sons, 40 acres of particularly fine quality potatoes. His plans for 1943 will doubtless be the same if "Men, Machines and Materials" can be assured him. As the immediate past president, he will assist tirelessly in conducting the affairs of this cooperative that is so close to his heart. "P.D." is a "go getter" in every sense of the word.

Director J. K. Mast, Elverson, Lancaster County, has been spokesman for the southeastern growers for four years. A 400-Bushel Club member in 1928 and 1941. In addition to growing 90 acres of potatoes of his own he grades packs and markets the crop of over 150 growers in his community. When stepping into his warehouse, one is struck with the quiet efficiency of his entire "set-up". He is keenly interested in growing potatoes economically and discovering better varieties for his community. He has the absolute confidence of his community and moves more potatoes cooperatively from Blue Ball than anyone else in the state. "Jake" is of the Masts of Conestoga Days. Another Camp Potato enthusiast — his crew is always available to the camp during rush seasons.

Director Ed Fisher, Coudersport, Potter County, represented potato growers of the north central part of the state for the past 6 years and has been Vice-President of this association for two years out of the above six. Ed. is a Potter County enthusiast producing foundation seed for his partner A. C. Ramseyer of Smithville, Ohio. He made the 400-Bushel Club in 1939-1940 and 1941. Camp Potato activities have been uppermost in Ed's mind since its inception; without his energy and interest this worthwhile project might suffer materially. Ed grew 220 acres in 1942 and expects to cooperate with the Food for Freedom program to the extent of increasing his acreage almost 50%. Tireless enthusiasm and a cooperator par excellence.

Director J. A. Donaldson, Emlenton, Venango County, has represented the west central potato growers for seven years. Three of these years he was vice-president and for two years, 1940-1941, he acted most ably as president. "J. A." worked for years in Akron, Ohio, when his health demanded that he get out into the open spaces. He handles farm implements for Emlenton and Titusville area; he is Justice of the Peace; a member of the Farm Credit Association; a member of the Venango County War Board; and an active Granger and Community Worker. He grew 78 acres of potatoes in 1942 and expects to raise 100 acres in 1943. Keen business interpretations on all Potato Industry problems are assured.





Director Robert W. Lohr, Boswell, Somerset County, has been representing southwestern potato growers for the past 12 years, 6 of which he acted capably as President of the Association. Bob has served in State Legislature for four years, and was Chairman of the Agriculture Committee at this time. For fourteen years, he served as president of the Somerset Agricultural Extension Association. Three governors appointed Mr. Lohr on a committee of 5 to represent Pennsylvania at the National Farm Congresses at Chicago, Hagerstown and Washington respectively. Last year Mr. Lohr grew 120 acres of potatoes and raised 6,000 turkeys. This year he proposes to grow the same acreage of potatoes and 12,000 turkeys. He joined the 400-Bushel Club ranks in 1939. Generally we consider Bob the Association's Diplomat. Characteristically, he insists on bringing out all facts before reaching his conclusions.



Director W. W. Hayes, Jersey Shore, Lycoming County, is going into his third year as a director for the central part of the state. Steers, hogs, and potatoes are his major farm enterprises. A big man in every way who is most interested in Cooperative Marketing of soybeans, livestock and potatoes. At the present time he is President of the Pennsylvania Soybean Cooperative Director of the Penn Central Livestock Market, Vice-President of the Jersey Shore Rotary Club, 4-H Baby Beef Club Leader, in addition to his Potato Association affiliations. He made the 400 Bushel Club in 1928. He moved the first Blue Pecks onto the 1943 market. In 1942 he raised 120 acres of potatoes and fattened 60 steers while in 1943 he expects to carry the same potato acreage and double his steer feeding operations. Will can be relied upon to see the bright side of the business picture. His homely philosophy is inspiring.

Director Hugh McPherson of the McPherson Brothers, Bridgeton, York County has represented the southern potato growers for three years and does a mighty good job of it. He is a member of the 400-Bushel Club, 1928. This farm in 1942 produced 120 acres of potatoes, 60 acres of fruit, 100 acres of string beans and managed 7,000 laying hens. Their plans for 1943 are for increases all along the line. One of Hugh's most recent assets is his family of two beautiful youngsters, his wife incidentally, was a recent Home Economics Instructor at Unionville. We can always depend on Hugh's witty but thorough analyses of a situation. He comes through with pertinent conclusions.



Director Frank L. Dodd, Columbus, Warren County, newly elected to the board to represent northwestern Pennsylvania potato growers. He is on the Board of Directors of the Northwestern Potato Processing Plant and the Meadville Production Credit. Dodd and his two sons are among the most progressive farmers of Warren County, although comparatively new in the Potato Business. Leslie his son, is a member of the 400-Bushel Club since 1939 and was President of the Warren County Cooperative Potato Growers Association for 2 successive years. In 1942 they grew 26 acres of potatoes and their intentions for 1943 are to increase their acreage at least 25%. F. L. Dodd and Sons have an outstanding dairy of 60 cows. Frank is a "Thinker" and a "Scrapper". You can rest assured that we'll hear more of him in cooperative circles.



— THE COUNSELOR —



Dr. E. L. Nixon, friendly adviser and counselor of this Association, needs no introduction to potato growers of Pennsylvania. Doc's constant practical advice and information has become most indispensable to our cooperative, his fearless agressive approach to important problems is constantly sought by directors and officers alike. His value to the Pennsylvania potato industry and agriculture generally is most inestimable. In 1942 he grew 100 acres of potatoes, 75 acres of soybeans, wheat etc. He proposes to increase his farm activities 20 to 25 percent in 1943. The fact that he is steeped in practical problems makes his suggestions and advice doubly valuable. Tireless and enthusiastic is "Doc."





THE TRIUMVIRATE

Messrs. Frantz, Wuesthoff, and Denniston, the only paid executives of the Association into whose hands the administration of the policies directed by the board falls. These men are experienced in the business of potato production and sales. They have been placed in three widely distributed areas of the State to facilitate the sales and services of this cooperative. The Allentown office 720 North Eight St. — phone 3-1765 Allentown, was established in the fall of 1941, with P. Daniel Frantz, in charge. The Butler office, 300 East Broad Street —phone 22665 Butler was set up in the fall of 1942 with former fieldman L. T. Denniston in charge. General headquarters are located at Williamsport with C. F. H. Wuesthoff in charge where records and business of a general nature is transacted. These men are keenly interested in the success of the Association and invite constructive criticism and welcome suggestions for the betterment of your cooperative.

Some outstanding advantages accrue to membership in a cooperative:

1. You own and control your cooperative—one member, one vote.
2. You own and control your own trade magazine—The Guide Post.
3. Your cooperative owns and controls the "Guarantee of Quality" from the time the commodity is being packed until it reaches the consumer.
4. Your potatoes are sold and the price established before they leave your farm.
5. You own and control the confidence, through integrity and dependability of hundreds of thousands of consumers and many food distributors and allied business and industrial interests depending wholly or, in part on the success of the potato industry.
6. Your Association was not founded for the personal or political advancement of anyone; it is non-partisan—it speaks without fear or favor on any proposition affecting the advancement of the potato industry.

THINGS ARE "LOOKING UP"

It has been this associations policy to call attention to problems facing the farmer and his 1943-1944 operations. Individually and as a group we have striven to create the proper understanding of the public and public agencies toward the farmer. Thru the cooperation of interested associations, cooperatives and the press much has been accomplished. The latter particularly has been most energetic in their efforts so that metropolitan areas might also bestir-themselves for its they that are most apt to go hungry. Editorials, articles, cartoons etc. have not been spared. Governmental department and agencies have awakened — late — not too late altho "Too Little and Too Late" might easily be the case in 1943. Recent frantic actions of agencies shows plainly that they have become caught in their own tangled network of Red Tape. Our Problems have been presented—Results are not yet too apparent but never the less —**Results**.

The manpower situation is more promising yet too much emphasis is being placed upon inexperienced help for harvest—this we are confident will iron itself out—our big problem is still the skilled key worker that has gone into war Industry and into the armed forces. They are not great in numbers but mighty in importance—for the potato growers of the state perhaps this would not exceed 1500 men—but mighty men are they. It is upon them we depend. We cannot replace them even tho a thorough program of training were instituted. It

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MEN—MACHINES—MATERIALS

COMMITTEES STILL ACTIVE

Pennsylvania Food Production Committee and the Pennsylvania Agricultural Information Committee had two meetings recently to crystalize their thinking and action in regard to the critical agricultural situation as regards Men, Machines and Materials. A definite executive committee consisting of the following was formed.

Chairman R, N. Benjamin, Pennsylvania Farm Bureau Cooperative.

Secretary-Treasurer, C. F. H. Wuesthoff, Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers.

Field Representative, E. L. Nixon, State College.

Managing Director, L. D. Odhner, Philadelphia.

P. Daniel Frantz, representing the potato industry.

J. Eric Linde, representing Berks-Lehigh Cooperative.

Glenn Boger, Lehigh Valley Milk Cooperative.

Ray Wenker, Pennsylvania Vegetable Growers.

E. L. Underkoffler, Poultry Cooperatives.

Charles Von Tagen, Food Distributors Association.

R. L. Lee, Equipment Dealers.

H. C. Fetterolf, Department of Public Instruction.

W. H. Fetter, Farm Bureau Transportation.

Tuesday, February 9th the following statements of policy and principles were adopted by the above group with the thought that they would be presented to Senators, Congressmen, Governors, Secretaries of Agriculture and to heads of the Manpower Commission and the War Production Board for definite consideration.

I. Manpower

1. Agriculture to be classified immediately as an essential war industry.
2. Drainage of farm manpower to cease—"farm manpower" in this and following items to include skilled labor for implement dealers and transporters and distributors of farm products and supplies.
3. Re-assign to farms critical help now in the armed forces and reallot to farms critical help in war industry.
4. Create an attitude of public recognition and respect for the inherent worth of the contribution being made to the war effort by essential workers engaged in food production.
5. Effectuate a complete coordinated program for the recruiting, training, housing and transportation of harvesting labor.

II. Machinery and Supplies

1. Agriculture to be classified immediately as an essential war industry.
2. That immediate steps be taken to have an adequate supply of machinery and repair parts made available to farmers through their accustomed dealers.
3. That all county machinery quotas shall be re-examined to determine if allotments have been made according to need—and that where counties have recevied in their quotas some machinery not required in those counties, such machinery shall be allotted to other counties having such need.
4. Determine the tools that are needed for spraying and harvesting 1943 crops and take immediate steps to commence their manufacture. Point out the irreparable damage caused by machinery shortage that it is now too late to produce and start *now* on 1944 production. Get allocation of 1944 materials set back to July 31, 1943.
5. Appoint within each county at least one dealer with blanket priority rating for essential repair parts high enough to secure them immediately.
6. Campaign to educate appropriate public officials to appreciate that increased production requires increased machinery.

WHO IS WALTER S. BISHOP?
1886 - 1943

Deeply regretting his untimely passing.

Walter Bishop's life epitomizes the exact medium between too little and too much. His business occupation, his community interest, his social-religious view-point all were tempered with this exact medium between too little and too much. With all of this his enthusiasm was boundless. He often said nothing was ever accomplished without it. His one prerequisite of the Potato Grower was, can he grow potatoes? Of the Fruit Grower, can he grow fruit? Of the Poultryman, can he produce eggs? He was efficient and proficient in these three vocations. He was a successful farmer by all of the standards.

Walter Bishop was a home community man. He believed that democracy should be made to work here first. He had no use for political chicanery either in education or in politices. He often quoted, "Ye have made of my Father's house a den of thieves." To him thievery was insincerity—playing politics, especially under the guise of education or religion, or one's profession.

He was the forerunner of a new type of agricultural leadership. A leadership that has its roots deeply embedded in the farms of Pennsylvania. A leadership in which the farmer himself is doing most of the thinking and leading. He, more than any one else championed the philosophy of the true cooperative—leadership, ownership, personal sacrifice, equal business-man—farmer participation in the solution of problems that concern both. This was really charting a new course in a very old industry—that of food production and distribution, to the end that the hope for the realization of human rights and the conservation of human values will be attained, and true democracy be preserved.

Walter Bishop was a deeply religious man. To him pure and undefiled religion was to do good. To him religion was the basis of society. Without it would human laws and natural sympathy hold society together? Religion operates powerfully on society, contributing in various ways to its stability and prosperity. He believed that a superintelligence concerns itself with human affairs; that the weak have a guardian, and the injured an avenger; that there is a recompense for sacrifices to uprightness and the public good; that human existence has a purpose and that human virtue, duty and principle have an unfailing friend.

It is singularly impressive at this time that the last thing that passed from Walter's hands to mine, a week before he died, was a Bible which he had intended to give me as a Christmas present. This episode calls my attention to a poem from McGuffey's Reader.

My Mother's Bible

This book is all that's left me now,
Tears will unbidden start,
With faltering lip and throbbing brow
I press it to my heart,
For many generations past,
Here is our family tree;
My mother's hands this Bible clasped
She, dying, gave it me.

Ah! well do I remember those
Whose names these records bear;
Who round the hearth-stone used to close,
After the evening prayer,
And speak of what these pages said
In tones my heart would thrill
Though they are with the silent dead
Here are they living still!

My father read this holy book
To brothers, sisters dear;
How calm was my poor mother's look
Who loved God's word to hear!
Her angel face, I see it yet!
What thronging memories come
Again that little group is met
Within the walls of home!

Thou truest friend man ever knew,
Thy constancy I've tried;
When all were false, I found thee true,
My counselor and guide.
The mines of earth no treasures give
That could this volume buy;
In teaching me the way to live,
It taught me how to die.

A parent's blessing on her son
Goes with this holy thing;
The love that would retain the one
Must to the other cling
Remember! 'tis no idle toy:
A mothers gift! remember boy.

CERTIFIED SEED SUPPLY

K. W. Lauer

The United States Department of Agriculture has asked Pennsylvania potato growers to plant 211,000 acres of potatoes this year to raise more food for the wartime needs of the country. This is an increase in acreage of 26 percent over 1942. Last year we planted 167,000 acres. That means our Pennsylvania growers will be expected to plant 44,000 acres more than were planted in 1942.

On the basis of figures supplied by the Crop Reporting Service it will require about 1,000,000 bushels of seed potatoes to plant this 44,000 acres. This is based on the practice of planting an average of 23 bushels per acre that our commercial growers follow.

We grew 211,330 bushels of certified seed potatoes in Pennsylvania last year or approximately 30,000 bushels less than were produced in 1941. Potato growers who have been buying local or Pennsylvania grown seed may be disappointed when they come to place their orders unless they have already done so. Many of our local sources of certified seed are already sold out, and the few certified seed potatoes that are still available are in scattered small lots. Many growers will be forced to plant uncertified seed this year. Such seed if not more than one year removed from certification should give satisfactory results, especially the late varieties. Our early varieties grown in the southeastern part of the state sometimes give disappointing results when planted the second year.

If it becomes necessary to plant seed further than one year removed from certification, only No. 1's should be planted and then only if they show evidence of producing good vigorous sprouts. Such seed can be tested very easily. Simply take a number of average or typical tubers and keep them at living room temperature. In a few weeks, if they are entirely dormant when selected, they will start sprouting. If the sprouts start first at the apical or eye-end of the tuber and they are thick, heavy and vigorous looking, one can feel quite certain that they will

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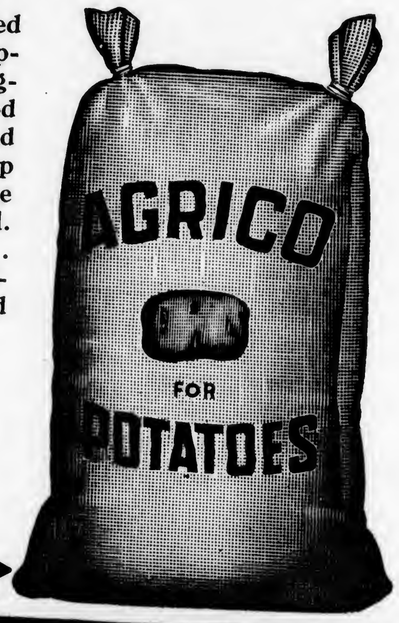
GOOD food and plenty of it — that is the foundation of national defense. That is why food and nutrition are first-page news . . . why you hear so much talk about vitamins and minerals and nutritive values. And where do minerals and vitamins and all good nourishment come from? From well-fed crops — nowhere else.

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Humus is the partial decomposition of vegetable or animal matter. It has its origin in plant and animal residues, such as the roots, stems and leaves of plants.

Humus is the organic portion of soil. It gives "life" to the soil, making a light plyable soil out of an otherwise heavy, close one. Humus increases the water holding capacity of the soil; disseminates water in periods of excess precipitation and conserves moisture in periods of drought. It helps to keep the soil cool in periods of excess heat. It is the one biggest single factor in influencing normal tuber development and avoiding illshapen, gnarly oversize and hollow heart.

The man who makes his living growing potatoes is entitled to ask what is the best source of humus? To those approximate 3,000,000 farms in the United States who produce less than 1000 bushels per farm, the source of humus is largely inconsequental. Potato growing with them is a looseing proposition. They take up most of the point rows of the corn or oat fields. This group of



An ideal root bed in the making. Worked with a jostler from the bottom up and not packed and pulverized from the top down.

farmers who grow potatoes contribute little in the way of potatoes to the civilian or armed forces.

It is the 66,000 farms, on which almost two thirds of the nation's production is grown, which are interested in Humus, its source, and the ideal root bed.

With these growers it is not a case of fitting the potato crop in with some other scheme of crop rotation, but rather finding as *short* a rotation as possible which will produce the maximum yield of the most beautiful tubers —free of all the possible defects. It is plain silly to talk about a four or five year rotation to the *potato* grower. Five or six crops of potatoes from a given field in a generation will never make a potato grower nor make the farm a potato farm. These twenty-year old blue grass sods may be ideal for a potato patch, if the worms are not too bad—but the nation's potatoes will not be grown after blue grass.

The longest potato rotation that has endured is a three year rotation—Potatoes, wheat, clover. This rotation has paid off farm mortgages. Since the advent of the combine this rotation has been shortened to two years with everything to gain and nothing to loose. Neither the hay nor straw is hauled off. Both are incorporated into the soil—not just plowed under.

The more one studies the two year rotation—potatoes, sweet clover with or without wheat, the more weaknesses show up—extend it to three years and let the sweet clover go to seed and incorporate this eight foot dead material

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THE GUIDE POST

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All communications should be addressed to C. F. H. Wuesthoff, Executive Secretary, Williamsport, Pennsylvania.

"Let's Get Together"

At this wrtiing your editor is happy to report that many Counties thru out the State have finally taken positive stands. They are appreciating that the Food Problem is most serious. One time rival and conflicting agencies are now Cooperating happily to one purpose—Food Production. Our "hats off" to them. The "higher ups" may well take a lesson from them. No more politics, no more petty jealousies, no more over lapings—they all have a **job to do—Produce Food.** When this war is over—mark you—John Q. Public will not forget—who quibbled, who objected to working with whom, who felt he was slighted, who felt he was regimented. The **World Needs Food** and its our job to produce to our utmost. From now on in folks—positive action—no more ifs and buts. When Johnny comes marching home we want to be able to look him in the eye. Politicians—Democrats—Republicans—New Dealers whether we like it or not must "Get Together" to our common purpose NOW—Time is a wasting. Do we want to be accused of impeding production because of past blunders or future fancied grievances? Its **high time** that we stop "playing horse"—Its high **time** that we cooperate for **Food Production** under handicaps.

A Food Production Corps

Sooner or later we hope some one will devise a workable scheme where by our food production army may be recognized as doing essential work. To remain on the farm to produce in spite of hazzards (financial and otherwise is just as heroic, just as courageous and just as vitally necessary as to enter the combatant forces. It is no place for a cripple, a crack pot or a lame-brain; food production is a bigger job than ever before. We contend **it takes courage** to stay at home and produce. We contend that a postive policy of recognition must be inaugurated. No one has yet refuted successfully the contention that "Food will Win the War and Write the Peace" so lets recognize the fact. We suggest a governmental insignia for farm and farmer, if no more than an arm band, indicating **Food Service Corps.**

THINGS ARE "LOOKING UP"

(Continued from page 10)

takes years to develop them—why? They are technicians as a matter of fact, who have lived their experiences. A maximum number of new machines are being rushed—some will be late for this spring's operations—for steel was not allocated last fall. Under the circumstances the grower will get as much as is possible provided his operation intentions justify. The farm and the county planning increases will doubtless be allowed proportionate shares.

Repair parts and materials are also loosening up not too late but plenty late. Plans for increases are hard to make with the uncertainty—but men we are in a Terrible War. A war for survival—handicaps are expected, they must be met, coped with and circumvented. The resourceful farmer cannot do the impossible but he'll give a real accounting. We expect our men in the army, navy, air force to produce; we are depending on them. So also, we are depending on our land army to do likewise.

A PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

The text of the address of former President Walter S. Bishop, of Doylestown, Pa., at the Association's Educational Session, during the Pennsylvania Farm Show, Harrisburg, Pa., January 17, 1939

EDITOR'S NOTE:—This address by Mr. Bishop is still most applicable at the present time.

I do not feel, as Alexander the Great did, concerning his father (Philip of Macedonia), when, in bitter resentment, he scanned the world horizon and said that he had left no new territory for him to conquer. The Potato Growers have gone far in adopting better methods in economical production. With the assistance of the food distributors, we have developed a practical, workable plan for marketing all of our potatoes. Yet, I feel there is much more to be accomplished. We have only begun the work that our organization can do and should do.

In my remarks to this Association at our annual meeting in 1936, I reviewed as some of you may recall, the "past, present and future of Pennsylvania Potato Growers." To refresh your mind, permit me to quite from this address: "As we trudge along the potato growers pathway, may we encounter just enough obstacles to keep us alert and surefooted, but not so few as to cause us to lose our heads." Those of us who have been in close touch with the affairs of the Association fully realize that we have encountered "just enough obstacles." I called your attention to the early activities of the Association. How, by means of tours,—auto, bus and train; meetings—county and statewide; friendships, and confidences, one with another, were established. "What are they worth in dollars and cents?" As these pleasant memories were established through our interests in production problems, it is only logical to assume that these friendships and confidences in each other will increase as the still more vital aspects of our industry are engaged in—that of cooperative thinking and cooperative marketing.

Reference was made to standardization and adaptation of potato machinery and equipment. Medals of award and certificates of merit are being presented in recognition of some of these needed improvements, and the end is not yet.

If you will not interpret it as boastful, I would like to add to those accomplishments of a permanent nature referred to three years ago, the acquiring of "Camp Potato," with its 270 acres the past year, and what is more important, the acquiring of the conception of a practical youth movement.

While I made the statement three years ago that "I believe we have come to the place where our Association is in the need of a permanent, paid Secretary," I did not anticipate that this would be an accomplished fact within six months. Most of you are familiar with the details as to how and why this was done. This year's annual report of the Secretary and General Manager is most gratifying to all of us.

I cannot refrain, at this point, from giving you the beatitudes—so to speak—of the movement around which our Association centers—that of cooperative thinking and cooperative marketing. The Association has adopted a program, its object being, the marketing of Pennsylvania potatoes in the most efficient manner, by:

(a) Determining a standard grade, high enough to meet exacting demands for all practical consumer acceptance, and low enough to make the best of our local crops.

(b) Adopting and trade-marking a distinctive, practical and attractive pack, of a size to meet the widest market demands.

(c) Determining definitely and accurately the merits of our own potatoes.

(d) Determining the true status of the potato in the diet of the normal and subnormal person.

(e) Determining and developing varieties most adapted to our growing conditions and most suited to special culinary uses.

(f) Setting up machinery by which the grading and packing of the adopted brand will be guaranteed to the consumer and made available in sufficient volume to interest large purchasers.

(Continued on page 23)

A TYPICAL POTATO GROWERS PROGRAM

ANNUAL MEETING

WARREN COUNTY COOPERATIVE POTATO GROWERS ASSOCIATION

Y. M. C. A. — WARREN

February 11, 1943 **10:30 A. M.**

BUSINESS: Reports, President
Secretary
Treasurer
Other Committees

THE POTATO PRODUCTION PROGRAM—
Agricultural Conservation Committee

DISCUSSION ON BACTERIAL RING-ROT—
O. D. Burke, Plant Pathologist, Penn State College

DINNER AND ENTERTAINMENT

DISEASE AND INSECT PROBLEMS OF THE POTATO GROWER—
O. D. Burke

WHAT'S AHEAD FOR WARREN CO. POTATO GROWERS—
Kenneth Hood, Agricultural Economist, Pennsylvania State College.

MARKETING PROBLEMS OF THE PENNSYLVANIA CO-OP. POTATO GROWERS—
C. F. H. Wuesthoff, Gen. Mgr., Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Grower's Association, Williamsport, Pa.

An Interested Reporter Reports:

Warren County Potato Growers held one of the most important meetings in the history of the organization at the Y.M.C.A. The importance of the food problem now facing the country and the efforts being made to meet it in the face of manpower shortage and also a shortage of machinery for use on the farms were all given attention in a thoughtful manner. There was an unusually large attendance present, in spite of the weather, and it is felt that a real impetus was given to the raising of potatoes in the county.

Paul R. Duntley, of Corydon, presided at the gathering and Acting Secretary O. C. Tritt presented a report of the activities of the organization for the past year. A brief business meeting followed and the reports presented showed the association was a most active and going concern in a splendidly solvent condition.

The local association through the Pennsylvania Cooperative Marketing system, has graded and sold locally thousands of bushels of potatoes under the blue label of the association. The prices commanded have been the best and the members are pleased with the progress made.

A discussion on the increased food demands and the problems in meeting them followed and it was brought out that the manpower and machinery shortages were the most critical phases of the production program. It was explained that in potato production a subsidy was not even asked nor sought by the farmers. One should be presented not for the farmers, but to protect the consumer and to hold down the price for the latter's use.

O. D. Burke, plant pathologist, of State College, gave a splendid talk on the ever present menace to good potato crops, the bacterial ring-rot. Methods for combatting this and for its control were given much attention.

A splendid dinner was served and then Messrs. Clinger and Hill, two clever young followers of Keller, mystified the audience with some sleight of hand tricks that won much applause.

Kenneth Hood, agricultural economist of State College, gave an address on "What the Future Holds for Warren County Potato Growers." Mr. Hood is familiar with the problems that face growers in counties situated as is Warren and he too emphasized the scarcity of labor and the importance of securing all possible machinery in repairing and putting what machinery is available in the best possible shape.

C.F.H. Wuesthoff, formerly of Warren and who is known to all potato growers in the county, but who is now general manager of the Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers' Association at Williamsport, followed. He reported on the activities throughout the state and emphasized the major activities of the growers program and the marketing problem and how it is being met. He also spoke of Camp Potato, located in Potter County.

He touched upon The Guide Post, the trade magazine published for the potato growers, which is edited by the speaker. He, Wuesthoff, stated that it was his ambition to make the magazine interesting and of worth to the readers. Through it he endeavors to furnish educational and inspirational articles to the men who are engaged in making Pennsylvania one of the leading potato growing states.

Organization of the Junior Potato Growers was touched upon and he gave it as his opinion that the future of the goal for better potatoes in Pennsylvania depended largely on the new young blood enlisted in the movement. He also called attention to the articles in the Guide Post devoted to the Junior Growers endeavors.

One interesting feature of the meeting was that, after adjournment, many lingered for a time discussing features of the day and the forthcoming season of potato growing.

A Splendid Record

Dear Secretary:

You might be interested to know that in the enforcement work during the past several weeks the inspectors have found the following Pennsylvania Blue Label lots in grade one or more times. Number 75, 121, 139, 171, 286, 314, 319, 373, 390, 383, 214, 11, 278, 235, 136, 101, 36, 241, 84, 251, 88, 31, 73, 173, 92, 324, 98, 212, 246, 135, 86, 238. This probably represents at least 100 different inspections as most of these lots were checked numerous times in different markets. During this period only 2 lots have been found out of grade and corrective measures taken. This represents the highest percentage of grade compliance we have ever reported for the Blue Label pack.

Signed, D. M. James,
Bureau of Markets

EDITORS NOTE: — Grade supervisors are to be complimented indeed. The cooperation of Agricultural Extension, Department of Agriculture and Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers is bringing desired results. All three agencies are vitally interested in making Pennsylvania Potatoes right. Consumer, Producer and Distributor all profit directly when such cooperation prevails. We are looking forward to a continuation of such fine "hand in hand" work.

FOR SALE

3000 BU. SIZE B RUSSETS
ALSO A FEW KATHADINS
(ONE YEAR REMOVED FROM CERTIFIED)

LYNN SILL

Rural Route 3 **Corry, Pa.**

PROFITS AND PATRIOTISM

Hand-in-hand for 1943
All-out Potato Production

Potatoes are wanted in 1943—plenty of them. The sky is the ceiling on the amount needed. Farmers are asked to grow more—and still more—of them. The anticipated need and demand for this basic commodity is so great, the talk of goals in any other terms smaller than acres makes little reason to the ordinary person.

Farmers will receive a profitable price for their 1943 potato crop in one form or another. Recent reports indicate incentive payments may not be included in the 1943 production program for agriculture. Congress has the authority to decide what methods to use to encourage production of war crops.

No one questions the great importance of food in the war effort. Congressional debate now concerns how farmers will be compensated for increased production and still keep the nation from increased inflation and higher prices generally.

It is the job of the farm people in Pennsylvania to get plans completed for increasing the planted acreage of potatoes, truck crops, and soybeans, and for increasing the production of milk, eggs, and meat, so that there will be food for all when Congress decides whether to support our efforts by adjusting the price support program or by the incentive program.

Potatoes are designated as an essential crop and classified in Group A for purposes of determining priorities for growers. Fertilizer is assured farmers who place their orders in early, in an amount for use at the customary rates of application and of approved grades. Machinery will be distributed, as is possible, where the supply will do the most good. Additional quantities of planters, sprayers, diggers, weeders, graders and repairs are being made available.

The 1943 potato goal for Pennsylvania is 211,000 acres, an increase over last year by 44,000 acres. The national goal is 3,260,000 acres. Plans for government purchase of potatoes in 50-lb. blue and yellow labeled sacks are now being worked out.

Good reasons are offered why we need more potatoes. We've had high yields for the last few years, but we have no assurance that these high yields will continue. We want to make sure of getting enough potatoes to protect the national supply, even should there be a substantial drop in yield.

A second reason is that increased potato production is wanted in the Northeast Region in an effort to avoid excessive transportation of bulky commodities to the great consuming centers. Despite its great potato production, Pennsylvania has to import many potatoes, year after year.

And here's a third reason. Potatoes could be used easily to substitute for other food crops should a poor growing year brings actual shortages.

Don't think too much about your rights and too little about your duties.

ALBERT C. ROEMHILD

All grades of potatoes handled to an advantage

122 Dock Street Philadelphia Lombard 1000

HOBBS ANTI-RACKETEERING BILL (653) AGAIN BEFORE CONGRESS

The first bill to be actually dropped into the hopper of the House on the opening day of the 78th Congress was H.R. 653, the amendment of the existing law, which was again introduced by Congressman Sam Hobbs, of Alabama. The fundamental purposes of the Hobbs Anti-racketeering Bill are (1) to prevent interference with interstate commerce by robbery or extortion, as defined in the bill, and (2) to prevent interference during the war with the transportation of troops, munitions, war supplies, or mail in interstate or foreign commerce. The new bill is the same as H.R. 7067 which was introduced in the 77th Congress, except for penalty clause of 20 years imprisonment instead of 10 years.

The bill has been sent to the Judiciary Committee and Congressman Hobbs is confident this committee will give it a favorable report when the first conference is held. He is also certain that the Rules Committee will give it prompt and favorable action when the bill is reported from the Judiciary. A preliminary canvass of the House makes the sponsor certain of its passage. Because the growers and shippers of fruits and vegetables have suffered so much from racketeers and extortionists, every Association member should make the passage of this bill into law a matter of personal issue and immediately acquaint his Congressman and Senators with his views on the Hobbs Bill.

Plug Loop-holes

Congressman Hobbs (A1A sponsor of the measure said it was designed only "to plug loopholes" in the 1934 anti-racketeering act revealed by the Supreme Court decision, which held that the anti-racketeering law could not be applied to union activities. He said his bill would amend this statute to make extortion and robbery cover such activities by unions.

Representative Howard Smith (Va). said the bill would "put unions" on the same basis with respect to highway robbery as the rest of us.

Teamsters Union Cited

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Rotary Kiln Products

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N. A. Crooks, Corydon
Robert Meabon, Grand Valley
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Nels Anderson, Warren
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FOR SALE: Size B Maine (Certified) Katahdins, Certified Pontiacs, Warbas, Russetts, North Dakota Cobblers, Bliss Triump, etc. Carloads and less. Ed A. Trexler, Trexler, Pa.

FOR SALE: One T Twenty International Crawler tractor in A-1 mechanical condition with a two row cultivator attached. This tractor must be seen to be appreciated. Phone 2-3793, Paul R. Muse, Route 3, Allentown, Penna.

WANTED: 1 elevator and conveyor. F. L. Dodd & Sons, Columbus, Pa., R.D.

FOR SALE:—Bargain—a 12 Row Niagara Potato Duster. Used very little, in perfect condition. Write or call J. M. Snyder & Son, Neff, Penna.

A PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

(Continued from page 17)

Some may raise the question, "why so much emphasis on cooperative thinking and cooperative marketing?" The answer is, without thinking together, we would have no Association, no confidences, no friendships which we cherish so much. Also, without cooperative marketing, we can have no dependable orderly marketing at the market price. With cooperation we erected "Camp Potato." Mr. Harshaw, of the State Bankers' Association, said on the occasion of the dedication of the camp that this was the finest example of cooperation that had ever come to his attention. United, we do things; divided, we do nothing. I believe we now have a program for merchandising Pennsylvania potatoes adequate for all the growers, large and small. Apparently, there are many educational features of this program that the Association must, of necessity, carry to the growers. This requires cooperation as a share, from all of us.

Pennsylvania Potato Growers have a proved production program. To freshen our memories, permit me to enumerate the "Big Four":

(1) Good Seed.
(2) Abundance of Humus.
(3) Proper Spraying.
(4) Vision.

After all is said and done, the success of a potato grower is determined by whether he can grow potatoes, not on account of the seasons, but in spite of them. When a man says that is a difficult problem, he really says, "I am a soft drill on a hard piece of steel." Difficulties are things that show what men are. A man is not rewarded for having brains but for using them. Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm. How extensive an educational program can the Association put on? The great aim of education is not knowledge, but action. It is not enough to be busy, so are the ants. The question is, *"what are we busy about?"*

The future needs of Pennsylvania's agriculture, as based on our experience as potato growers, are:

1st. Cooperative Marketing.
2nd. Adapted Vocational Education.
3rd. Adapted Research.

EQUITABLE PAPER BAG

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POTATO SACKS

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And all other types of heavy duty pasted bottom paper sacks

Equitable is GENERAL HEADQUARTERS for bags of superior quality and construction because we operate our own paper mill and control every step of the manufacture from the pulp to the finished bag.

Our wide variety of bag sizes and styles makes us able to supply the proper bag for every need—

Avail yourself of the free service of our Art and Research staffs on your specific problem.

EQUITABLE PAPER BAG CO. INC.

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Paper Mills at Orange, Texas

"HUMUS AND A ROOT BED

(Continued from page 15)

into the soil at the proper time, and not only will potatoes grow but it is the quickest way to build up a run down farm. There is but one nigger in the wood pile up to here and that is the uncurbed use of lime. It is possible to lime just enough to grow the clovers and not induce scab, but it is probably impractical. If Pennsylvania will be compelled to grow white skinned potatoes the scab problem will become more and more serious. All good things apparently have their draw backs. What the potato grower is looking for is a crop, acid tolerant, which will do all that blue grass will do for the soil, repel grubs and wire worms, and do it in a year. Maybe rye grass is an answer. It grows well on the most acid soil, it has a root system superior to timothy, it grows in half a summer. What does blue grass have that rye grass does not possess?

Perhaps combining rye grass with soy beans or buckwheat will take the place of corn stuble and manure.

Everything considered potatoes and soy beans do not make a bad combination for a potato farm. *This rotation has eliminated grub and wire worms.* It has not required the use of lime so that there is no scab problem. In wet years it has largely eliminated hollow heart. In dry years the yield could have been larger—with what rotation? How much lime per acre?

Soy beans and potatoes have paid the mortgage plus the excess lime on a twenty acre field now too badly infected with scab to grow even russets. On this twenty acre field any legume or combination of legumes can be grown, but potatoes are out, whether in a two, three, four, or five year rotation. Fortunately the error was discovered before the whole farm was ruined with lime. It is *imperative* that a very clear *distinction* should be made between the *potato farm* and the *general crop* farm where rotations requiring lime are involved.

The ideal seed bed for potatoes is one having a uniform distribution of humus, dead leaves and stems, in fine soil, stones (if any), clods and air spaces throughout the entire ploughed contents. There are a lot of ways to accomplish this—(1) Double plowing—once shallow in the fall, the next deeper in the spring. (2) good discing before plowing preferably in the fall and then stand the furrows on edge, and once over with the disc or jostler and the field is ready to plant. The mistake is too frequently made of making the soil fine and too smooth on the surface. The surface should be rough and porous, good sized clods serve to let the water from the heavy spring rains go down and not run off in gulleys. A clody field tends to get mellower as the season advances—A fine dusty surface tends to wash off and cement together, getting harder as the season advances.

The more the field is run over with worn out discs or spike tooth harrows the less it approaches the ideal root bed for potatoes.

EUREKA MOWER COMPANY

Potato Machinery **Babcock WEED HOG** **Spring Tooth Harrows**

COCKSHUTT PLOW COMPANY

Moldboard Plows **Manure Spreaders** **Disc Plows** **Grain Drills**

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Hay Machinery **Harvesting Machinery**

CUTAWAY HARROW COMPANY

Disc Harrows

DUANE H. NASH

District Representative

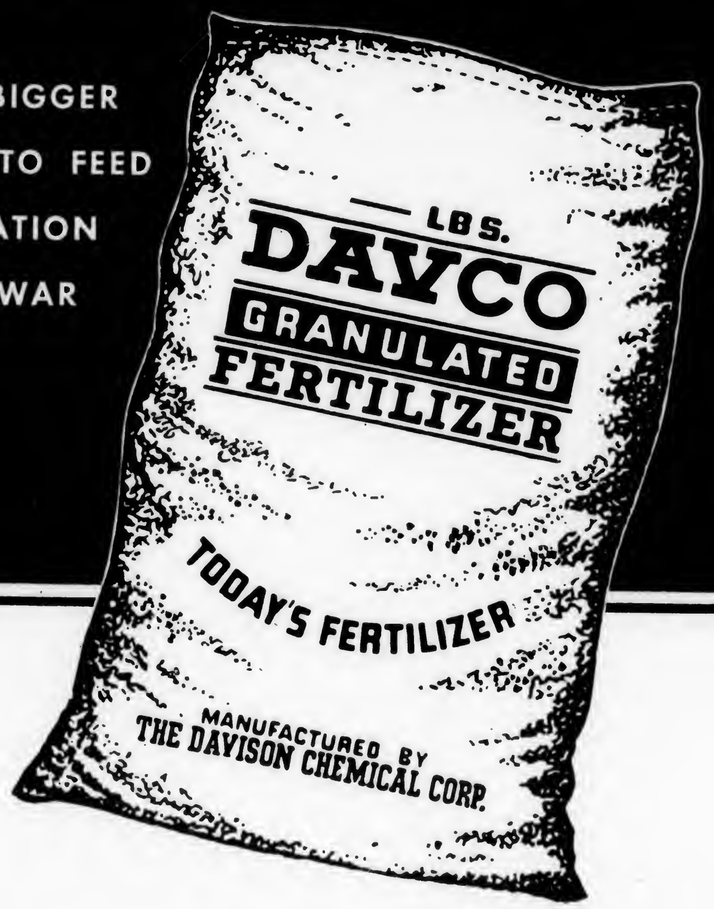
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You who grow a

BASIC FOOD

Plan now to harvest a big crop of better quality potatoes this year! Davco Granulated increases yields because it drills evenly . . . feeds plants evenly without dust, waste or odor. Ask your dealer how you may get into the "better than average" class in 1943!

FOR BIGGER YIELDS TO FEED A NATION AT WAR



COMPLETE COOPERATIVE SERVICE

(Continued from page 4)

ganizing into groups the producers of this nation was the farmer's determination to remain independent. The very acts of a large percentage of the American farmers belie these statements. There are certain services which, of necessity, others must render to practically every producer in this nation. To remain independent the farmer must render unto himself as many of these services as he can on an economically sound basis.

Too Few Members See Selves As Owners Of Co-Op

The farmer who surrenders to individual enterprise the marketing of the products of his soil, the purchasing of his supplies, and the control of his operating capital, is certainly giving up his independent initiative. As he retains these functions—so does he retain his independence. The cooperative may afford him an opportunity of rendering unto himself these vital and necessary services. It must be remembered that in all cooperative endeavor the members of the cooperative are the owners of the business. I admit that too few of the members of a cooperative view their cooperative in that light. Too many view their cooperative in the same light that they view independent or individual enterprise. Basically and fundamentally, however, the business of a cooperative is and must be owned and directed by its membership.

The question is often asked as to what constitutes sufficient volume to justify the existence of a cooperative. This question can only be answered by first determining as far as possible the various cooperative services which the organization expects to render. It is logical to assume that a volume of produce sales aggregating 50 or 100 carloads would hardly be sufficient to justify the existence of a cooperative marketing organization. It is also logical to assume purchase of supplies aggregating only $10,000 to $15,000 would hardly justify the existence of a cooperative supply organization, nor would a volume of business of $5,000 to $10,000 justify the existence of a credit corporation. The nature of the service rendered, together with the period of activity necessary to render this service is vital in considering the organization of a cooperative. There are, no doubt, certain highly specialized products, the production of which is so restricted geographically, and to the individual producer, that cooperative marketing may be highly adaptable, even though the carlot volume should be extremely limited. This, however, is the exception and not the rule.

The principal weakness, from an economic standpoint, of a one-phase cooperative organization is generally due to the short period of time in which the service may be rendered to the membership. In the case of fruits and vegetables, most marketing seasons last for a period of two weeks to six weeks. No business can afford to maintain efficient personnel for twelve months when its active service covers such a short period of time. The same condition holds true, as a rule, with the supply cooperative dealing in farm supplies for its members, and the credit corporation handling production financing for its membership. Each of these phases of cooperative service is generally restricted to a short, highly intensified period.

In combining the complete services necessary for a group of farmers to carry on their business of farming it is generally found that the services required are of such a nature that the intensified periods of activity come at varying times throughout the year and that, where properly co-ordinated, the same personnel may be used in rendering all services. This has enabled many smaller cooperatives to build up a capable and efficient personnel by virtue of the fact that the cooperative was in position to offer year-round employment to the key personnel.

Growers Must Look To Their Own Future Independence

In considering the question of sufficient volume to justify cooperative effort, I have found the following to be a very reliable gauge. If the volume of business is sufficient to attract and hold independent operators, it is generally sufficient to justify cooperative effort.

It has been rightly said that it should not be the purpose of cooperative effort to destroy or entirely eliminate independent enterprise, on the other hand, it is equally true that justifiable cooperative enterprise should not be denied or prohibited solely for the purpose of maintaining independent op-

erators. Personally, I am a firm believer in every farmer rendering unto himself such services as he can, when in rendering that service he is improving his condition economically and socially. It is imperative that growers think in terms of their future existence and independence. I can think of no way which better assures him his freedom of action than in building up for himself a strong independent organization which has for its purpose the safeguarding of his interest and the perpetuation of his business of farming.

The profit motive is the motivating influence of all of our endeavors. The independent operator who is rendering a service to any group of farmers is doing so for the profit which he hopes to gain thereby. The service rendered may be of an exceptionally high quality but the perpetuation of any individually owned business is much more hazardous than that of a collectively owned business. Profits which go to perpetuating an individually owned business lose their identity when they become the property of the individual. Those same profits, if accumulated in a well-organized and well-managed cooperative, become a guarantee of the perpetuation of the business of the men who contributed them and serve as a guarantee for their future operations.

One of the major functions of a well-managed cooperative should be a guarantee of the perpetuation of its members' business. Small contributions from sales, purchase of supplies, interest on production financing, and other sources of revenue should be set aside as an operating capital for the membership of the cooperative. These contributions should not at any time be burdensome; on the contrary, in most instances they may be accumulated from savings through group enterprise and eventually develop into a capital structure which serves as a safeguard for perpetuating the business of the membership of the organization.

Farmers Should Consider How Corporations Have Served Selves

It occurs to me that too often the farmer is concerned with the well being of someone other than himself. He is encouraged to align himself with those interests which are purely selfish and which advance the theory that for every service a group of growers render themselves they, in turn, take out of employment their neighbors and friends in the community. The farmer too seldom considers the steps which other industries so vital to his well-being have taken to serve themselves in every way possible.

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Manufacturers of LETHANE 60 and CUPROCIDE

As industries which have expanded tremendously in self-service and which affect vitally the economic well-being of practically every farmer in the United States I cite the steel, rubber and petroleum industries. To me it is as logical to say that the steel manufacturer should not own iron mines, coal mines and transportation facilities, that the rubber industry should not own plantations and transportation facilities and that the petroleum refineries should not own wells and transportation facilities as to say that the farmer should not market his produce, purchase his supplies, or avail himself of the cheapest sources of operating capital.

That latter item alone has been a tremendous handicap to farmers of this nation for years. Until recent years very few farmers were able to borrow operating capital at less than eight percent and in many instances a much higher rate, whereas, highly organized and specialized industries have secured their operating capital at interest rates from one-half of one per cent, to one and two per cent. If the expansion of self services is economically sound and administratively feasible to these industries, I fail to see the logic of the argument denying the farmers of this nation the same privilege.

I am firmly convinced that the greatest harm that has ever come to the cooperative movement in this country has been brought about by the so-called "magic and theoretical ideals" with which it has been surrounded. The cooperative effort has been described as a "way of life," "the application of the golden rule," "the millennium in human relations," "the utopia in business practices," and other high-sounding mythical terms. Cooperative enterprise is simply a way or method of doing business. There is certainly no magic in the word "cooperative". The growers who feel that there is so much magic in cooperative effort that they can disregard all the basic principles of sound business administration are bound to have a sad awakening.

Wherever agriculture is the major industry in any community there is a place for cooperatives. The extent of scope of services rendered by the cooperative should be governed entirely by the needs of the community. It is probable that there are some agricultural communities where only one phase of cooperative endeavor is applicable. I am convinced, however, that this does not apply to the southern states where fertilizer, containers and production capital are as necessary to the farmer's well-being as is the marketing of the products of this soil. A number of southern cooperatives with relatively small volume have been enabled, through the expansion of their services, to render these varied services effectively and efficiently at a minimum of cost. In many instances where such organizations are operating successfully, the volume of neither of the services alone is sufficient to justify the existence of a cooperative.

The effectiveness of a cooperative is always determined by the service it renders its members. The leaders of the cooperative must be consistently on the aleart to discover new ways of serving the membership of their organization. The most effective economical administration is often made possible by the varied services rendered. It is only through rendering these varied services at a lower cost than the growers have experienced that the organization becomes most effective. A savings on each one of a number of varied activities often results in a considerable savings on the whole of the grower's operations. This can be effected only by rendering as nearly a complete service to the growers of the organization as circumstances warrant.

POTATO GROWERS MUST "CARRY ON"

- **Increases are essential to "Winning the War." We dare not "let the boys down." Difficulties are in the way but this is WAR.**

C. F. H. WUESTHOFF
Secretary

CERTIFIED SEED SUPPLY

(Continued from page 13)

have a considerable amount of vigor. If the sprouts appear simultaneously from all the eyes and they are not thick, heavy and vigorous, but thin and spindly, it will indicate that such seed lacks vigor and will likely result in a weak plant.

This sprout test will not give an index of the disease content of the tubers, but it does give one a good idea as to the potential vigor of a certain lot of seed. The more tubers included in the test, the more accurate will be the indication of the potential seed value of the potatoes.

The principal states from which our growers secure much of the certified seed brought into Pennsylvania are Maine and Michigan and a few from New York State.

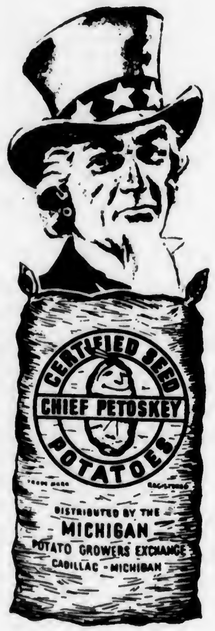
The increased amount of certified seed potatoes in those states outside of Pennsylvania that supply our growers was close to 2,000,000 bushels in 1942 compared with 1941. Just how much seed is still available from those states is a question.

DEWEY PLANS HELP FOR FARM

Speaking at the annual Lincoln dinner of the National Republican Club in New York City on February 12th, Governor Thomas E. Dewey promised New York State farmers a definite program of help on the question of labor within ten days.

Warning that there was a critical shortage of farm labor in the state, the Governor declared that the State was working out a plan to meet the emergency and that he would be ready to announce it within ten days.

"There will not be any directives from Albany which try to fit a St. Lawrence dairy farmer into the pattern of an Ulster County fruit grower or a Suffolk County potato grower," said Dewey. "There will be no elaborate questionnaires demanding pages of useless information from farmers already overworked. We shall take the direct path relying upon the patriotism of individuals — not government threats. There will be a call to community service in the war effort and I know our people will respond."



EVERY AMERICAN FARMER
SHOULD DO HIS UTMOST TO
INCREASE PRODUCTION

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Chief Petoskey Brand
Certified Seed Potatoes

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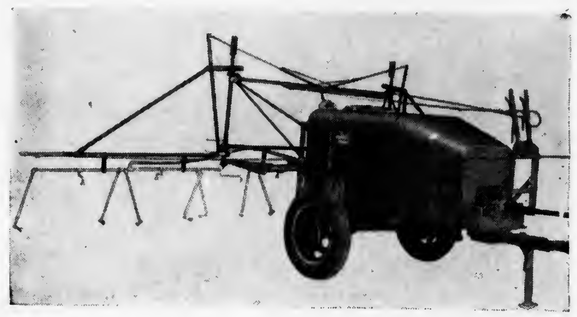
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Your job is to produce the MOST and the BEST you can. Our job is to keep your BEAN rolling at top efficiency. A BEAN Sprayer needs very little repair attention. But when it does, you'll find Authorized BEAN Service and Parts in every growing area.

We're allowed to supply new outfits, too, where they are vitally needed. While we're busy at top production of war equipment for Uncle Sam, we're continuing to build some sprayers where they do not interfere with war work. And we're building them with all the ruggedness and dependability that have kept the BEAN in front through the years. . . . including the matchless ALL-Enclosed BEAN Royal Pump.

So . . . keep your BEAN rolling if you're already an owner. Get a new one if you must have new, larger, or more equipment for full Victory Production. Call on us or any of our dealers anywhere for service and help. And remember, a BEAN is a sound investment, not just for the emergency, but for years to come.



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John Bean Mfg. Co., Division

Lansing, Michigan



300 BUSHEL PER. ACRE
Using Iron Age
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Roy T. Wotring operates the Fairland Farm at Neffs, Pa. where he has been farming for most of the 22 years he has been a successful grower of fine potatoes. He has 113 acres of potatoes under cultivation and during the past season he averaged better than 300 bushels of choice potatoes per acre. He plants his seed potatoes with his 2 row Automatic Iron Age Potato Planter.

Few people can say more in praise of a machine than Mr. Wotring who says: "I am absolutely satisfied with my Iron Age planter, in fact, I haven't seen anything that can even come close to it."

Potato growers everywhere are saying more and more in praise of their Iron Age planters, about the labor saving features built into the machine and the savings effected and the greater yields secured through the use of the Band Way system of fertilizer distribution.

If you have a vital need for potato planting, dusting or spraying equipment, see your ration board. Planting and spraying equipment is limited by the demands of all-out war. But the demands for food make vitally needed new equipment available so when you apply to your ration board—be sure to specify Iron Age.

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THE GUIDE POST

VISION PENNSYLVANIA GROWERS

VOLUME XX — NUMBER 3

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HEAVY PRODUCTION essential to PROFITS
and
THE WAR EFFORT

MARCH — 1943

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POTATO GROWERS ASSOCIATION

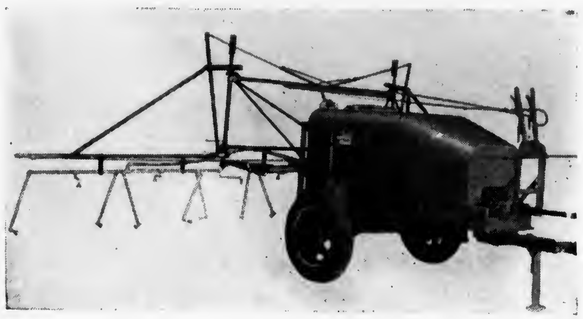
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THE GUIDE POST

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A PROSPEROUS POTATO INDUSTRY

Conclusions after 25 years of Experimentation, Demonstration and Observation

DR. E. L. NIXON

A program leading to a profitable potato industry involves the consideration of four factors—YIELD, CULINARY QUALITY, MERCHANDISING, AND TOTAL NATIONAL PRODUCTION.

The potato business needs to be looked at as a whole, in order to determine just what the problems of the industry are. One phase of the potato business ought not to be pushed beyond its relative economic importance to the industry to the neglect of some other phase which may be the limiting factor in the economic return.

In other words, when total production runs riot with consumption and distribution, it is no time to push production even, the most efficient kind, and it is certainly no time for the experts to go to sleep. In times of adversity is the time to prepare for prosperity.

Under normal conditions total crop production is dependent on the total acreage planted to a given crop. Probably no other crop is as much influenced in yield by disease or weather hazards as is the potato crop. On the other hand no other crop responds so bountifully to proper cultural practices as does the potato.

Programs initiated twenty-five years ago were designed primarily to control or get rid of disease. This marks first the beginning of the commercial development and expansion of the "disease free seed" movement—a forerunner of the academic "certification movement" and second the development and adoption of a program of commercial potato spraying as contrasted with experimental plot spraying. In these programs high yields were more or less incidental but practices aimed to make crop production more certain and to produce a better crop also produced a bigger crop. "Good seed" alone showed as much as 154 bushel per acre increase and spraying often equally as great. Good seed and proper spraying thus laid the foundation for Pennsylvania's famous "400 Bushel Potato Club". This turned out to be a highly significant and popular production program. Then came the reckoning! The distribution of abundance through an antiquated distribution philosophy geared only to cope with the distribution of scarcity. Farmers with the caves bulging without a market, city dwellers with their stomachs caving without purchasing power.

The more emphasis we place upon the productivity of our land, the wealth of our natural resources, and our technology, the greater the indictment of ourselves; the more evident our blindness and lack of initiative.

We need a program that will enable us to utilize our tremendous resources in overcoming poverty and idleness through the distribution of abundance. But more than that, we need a force that will make people want to help in doing this. We have the wealth. We need the willingness. We lack the leadership.

A program leading to a profitable potato industry, involves the consideration of yield concerned with Good seed involving (a) freedom from disease,

(b) varietal adaptation, (c) proven sources and (d) proper storage.

Good Seed

The original concention of the term "certified" was to designate the extraordinary seed of a given area, utilizing the assistance of public agencies in its propagation, maintenance and development, and leaving the commercialization to growers, groups of growers, or reputable seedsmen, "Certified Seed" has become the adopted commercial expression for dealers in potatoes to be used for planting purposes.

With the unfortunate national commercialization of the term "certified" it naturally follows seed agencies and seed areas are now writing prefixes to the term "certified" thus designating their respective "certified brands" as having superiority over ordinary certified potatoes. This is the result of over expansion in the production of certified seed in areas when the production of seed potatoes never should have been attempted. Now there must be a retrenchment and a new confidence established in identified seed from whatever source.

What the grower who makes his living growing potatoes means when he uses the expression "good seed" is that it is free from disease, that the green shoots will be vigorous, and show no signs of degeneration. The careful grower should expect a good stand, and a "nice" field of potatoes from a planting "good seed."

Foundation or "good seed" seed sources, for a given variety consist of those localities where complete degeneration can be prevented by occasional removal of abnormal plants. No practical method is known to prevent complete deterioration of certain varieties of potatoes in some sections of the country. The potato industry needs specific information, first as to where foundation seed potatoes may be perpetuated indefinitely and second what all of the practical factors are which prevent deterioration of seed potatoes—natural or artificial.

Nature and observation have established the first for the industry for a few varieties. New England is the home of the Green Mountain variety, New York the home of the Rural, Michigan the home of the Russet, Prince Edward Island the home of the Cobblers and it is significant that Potter County is the home of the Nittany. What inherently do these varieties possess that renders their perpetuation, in certain localities, comparatively easy? Time will tell what will happen to the present array of new varieties once they become widely disseminated and seed sources attempted to be established.

Devitalization as a Result of Heat

Experimental data from test plots conclude that economic differences in yield from plots planted with "good seed" from a proven seed source as compared with the yield from similar plots planted with seed produced under hot conditions could not be accounted for by the dfference in the amount of degenerative diseases, leafroll, mosaic, etc.

It became more and more evident that potatoes grown under extreme heat conditions lost materially in vitality when planted the succeeding seasons.

This conclusion merely substantiates what practical growers found to be true from practice. As early as 1885 reference is made to the importation of seed potatoes from the north (cooler climate). Leaf roll and mosaic were unknown then.

To try to find out just what happens to the potato plant when grown under extreme temperature conditions, a series of experimental plots were established in which the various temperatures could be controlled.

Some plots were so arranged that the potato plants grew in among pipes through which ice water was kept circulating. Thus the soil temperature could be held to relatively low temperatures. Other plots were so arranged that the potato plants grew over pipes through which steam passed. Thus the soil temperature could be maintained at relatively high temperatures.

Series of these plots were placed in the green house as well as outside so that in addition to the usual outside seasonal temperatures, top growth took place under very high temperatures.

In other words potatoes were grown under conditions as follows: *Soil*: (1) Heavy limestone clay (2) Berks-Lehigh shale (3) Potter County Volusia. *Moisture*: (1) Excessively wet (2) Excessively dry (3) Ideal moisture. *Temperature*: (1) Tubers forming in high temperatures, tops in high temperature



Fig. 1.—This entire field of potatoes was planted from "certified" Russets and treated in the same manner throughout. The light area through the center, a result of reflected light from smooth flat leaves, was planted from seed, which was produced in a foundation seed area. The areas on each side were planted from seed which was produced in an area where soil temperatures occasionally reach 80 degrees.

Fig. 2.—The leaf to the left below is a typical leaf from the central area. The leaf to the right is a typical leaf from either side of the central area, and shows the effect of heat degeneration. The central area yielded 22 per cent more than either side.



(2) Tubers forming in high temperatures, tops under shade (3) Tubers forming in low temperatures, tops in high temperatures (4) Tubers forming in low temperature, tops under natural conditions. (5) Tubers forming in high temperatures, tops under natural conditions. (6) Tubers and tops grown under natural conditions. Tubers were harvested from each of the six conditions. Yields, cullinary values, including cooking quality and tuber discoloration were recorded.

The real purpose of the experiment was to study seed degeneration when grown under various temperatures. Tubers were saved from the various plots at harvest time and planted back the next three successive seasons on their respective plots and in addition, in nursery plots under natural conditions at "Camp Potato", where diseases, particularly, mosaic, leaf roll and other degenerative types are more readily discernable.

Some phenomenal differences came to light for example, high soil temperatures, 90 degrees, and high top temperature 110 degrees, produced enormous vines and very small yield of irregular shaped potatoes. Shading the rural types by means of cheese cloth reduced their yield tremendously while the same shading of the Green Mountain types, more than doubled their yields.

In almost all instances hot soil resulted in the development of some sort of abnormal or defective tubers.

Hot soil temperatures and hot atmospheric temperature in which the tops grow affect potato varieties as follows:

a. Accelerates the viruses, leaf roll and mosaic
b. Devitalizes the seed
c. Stimulates the plants into abnormal leaf and vine development (if plenty of moisture)
d. Reduces tuber production
e. Causes irregular tuber development
f. Induces internal discoloration
g. Lowers cooking quality
h. Induces scab.

Varietal Adaptation

There are great differences in varietial response to these high temperatures. The only adverse response to extreme low soil temperatures was reduction in tuber set and development. These experiments show quite conclusively that the McCormick, American Giant, Rose of Erin, Katahdin, Cobbler, Nittany and the tops of the Rurals are quite heat tolerant both, in relation to degeneration and tuber formation.

While the Green Mountain, Bliss Triumph, Chippewa and the tuber set and formation of the Rurals respond favorably to low soil temperatures, both in degeneration, devitilization and tuber set and formation.

There are many new seedling varieties at "Camp Potato" which are aligning themselves into "heat tolerant" or "cool weather" varieties. There are thousands of seedling varieties that cannot be perpetuated in the cool climate of Potter County even on the northeast slope at "Camp Potato."

Proven Sources

From the reaction of various varieties to temperature conditions as indicated above considerable light is shed on why some varieties are adapted to certain areas and not to others. What is needed further is to determine as rapidly as practicable where disease-free seed can be grown of the varieties which prove the most profitable in the various climates and soil conditions of the state.

A foundation seed source for a given variety of potatoes consists of an area or location for which it has been proved that devitalization of the particular variety does not take place and the spread of the viruses is not so rapid that rogueing becomes impracticable. From what has been said, it seems quite clear that foundation seed sources will be where low soil temperatures prevail during the tuber set and formation. Such areas are naturally located in the higher elevations of the state. Temperature readings show that the soil temperature of a northern to northeastern slope is on the average nine degrees cooler through July and August than a southern to southwestern slope, (see Fig. 5). This difference in soil temperature often expresses the difference between a proved seed source and one in which certain varieties of potatoes cannot be perpetuated either free of disease or devitalized.

There are perhaps many areas in the mountain regions of Pennsylvania where it is practicable to produce foundation seed. In addition to the fundamental requirement of a low soil temperature necessary in the production of foundation seed potatoes, it is indispensable that the **grower inject** his own



Fig. 3.—This hill of potatoes lies just as it grew under ideal temperature and moisture conditions. Pipes with circulating ice water were buried just under the surface of the soil and just over the tubers, maintaining a constant temperature of 54 degrees. The tops grown from these tubers is shown below, (left). A low soil temperature prevents heat degeneration.



Fig. 4.—These tubers are the progeny of a hill of the same variety as the one to the left. The only difference was that the soil temperature around the growing tubers was occasionally brought to 90 degrees. The tops grown from these tubers is shown below (right). Heat degeneration is transmitted through the tuber.





Fig. 5.—The slope to the left faces the southwest. The slope to the right faces the northeast. There were nine degrees difference in temperature through July and August on these two slopes. One is a foundation seed source for most varieties, the other only for a few. Only a valley separates them.

interest and **personality** into the business. It is not necessary to be able to identify all the diseases that may befall the potato in order to become the producer of foundation seed. One must know, however, normal plants of the varieties involved, whether they have been heat devitalized, by the appearance and growth habits of the green shoots. It is of much more fundamental importance and less confusing for the potato grower to learn the earmarks of normal plants than it is to carry constant questionable identities of the numerous diseases in his mind.

If the seed producer is in a proven foundation seed area for the given variety "good seed" can be most economically produced by mass roguing, or the removal of all abnormal plants at the optimum time. If he is not in a foundation seed area for the given variety his seed sooner or later will "go to pieces," in spite of all the academic resorts at his command.

Hill selection, tuber uniting, indexing, seed plots and test plots to the north or to the south have not changed or improved a single variety of potatoes one iota over the same variety grown in a foundation seed area.

The Russets from Michigan, the Green Mountain from Maine, and the Nittany from Potter County, are exactly the same Russet, the same Green Mountain, and the same Nittanys that they were twenty years ago—all with a "trace" of something.

Storage

A program leading to a profitable potato industry involves the consideration of yield concerned with proper storage. See September 1942 issue of THE GUIDE POST on, "Harvesting and Storage of the Potato Crop." As the proper storage of potatoes for table stock is indispensable so also is it **doubly important** for seed purposes.

As this article was in the process of preparation, Mr. Franklin Brion of Tioga County, came in. In the course of the conversation, he remarked that "the Chippewa did not do very good last year." I said, "What was the matter with them?" He replied, "They did not come up very good. When I dug down the seed pieces had formed little knots on the ends of the sprouts." I knew from experience that one of two things had happened. Either they were planted in dry hot soil or they had been injured in storage. It was finally brought out that this seed was planted last, and that the whole pile had sprouted and matted together with fibrous roots. In short, they had heated in storage.

What should have been done was that the whole pile should have been run over the grader just as the sprouts had begun to develop and spread out a foot or two or three deep over the floor of the storage depending on the available floor space. There is usually enough space in storages at planting time to allow for spreading the seed out before it is ruined in deep bins.

When potatoes begin to grow the center of the piles get warmer and warmer; then not only sprouts turn to blind sprouts but fibrous roots begin to develop. The starch turns to sugar and the seed pieces will not callous, rot sets in, blind sprouting continues after planting and a disastrous yield is in the offing. The same physiological changes take place when potatoes are planted in hot



Fig. 6.—Sixty pounds of potatoes were weighed into each of these crates and the one to left stored under hot and dry conditions; the middle crate in moist but warm conditions; the one to the right under cool moist conditions. All of the tubers from each crate were planted under similar conditions and the yields were as follows:

Crate to the left yielded 48.1 bu. per acre
Crate in the middle yielded 323.2 bu. per acre
Crate to the right yielded 342.2 bu. per acre

open furrows or in dry, dusty soil.

It is best to plant cut seed immediately after cutting, in fresh moist earth. If it has to be held any length of time (24 hours) it should be spread out on the storage floor 8 to 12 inches deep and covered with wet burlap sacks. In 24 hours at 70 degrees temperature the cut surfaces will be completely calloused. Fresh cut seed should not be exposed to the hot sun even over the noon hour. Keep it covered, keep it cool, and keep it moist, not by splashing water over it by hand or from a sprinkling can but by wet sacks spread over the seed. It does not need to be dried up with land plaster or flours of sulphur.

There is not one bit of evidence, in the entire state of Pennsylvania, that it is profitable to treat seed with chemicals; but all the evidences show that it does not pay.

The Soil

A program leading to a profitable potato industry involves the consideration of yield concerned with the Soil involving:

a. Humus
b. Proper rotation with legumes in relation to soil types, climate, diseases and insect pests
c. Root bed preparation
d. Weed eradication
e. Fertilization
f. Time, depth, and distance of planting
g. Harvesting

For a brief consideration of "Humus and a Root Bed for 1943" see the February 1943 issue of THE GUIDE POST.

The Rotation

The sole purpose of a rotation for the potato grower is to produce the most economically.

In other words the paramount issue of the potato grower is not how much pasture or hay can be produced but the economical production of potatoes. When a potato grower invests a hundred dollars to bring each acre of potatoes up to digging time and then finds scab, wire worms or grub injury has rendered more or less of his crop unmarketable, he appreciates the importance of a rotation.

It is so well known that it scarcely needs to be mentioned here that the

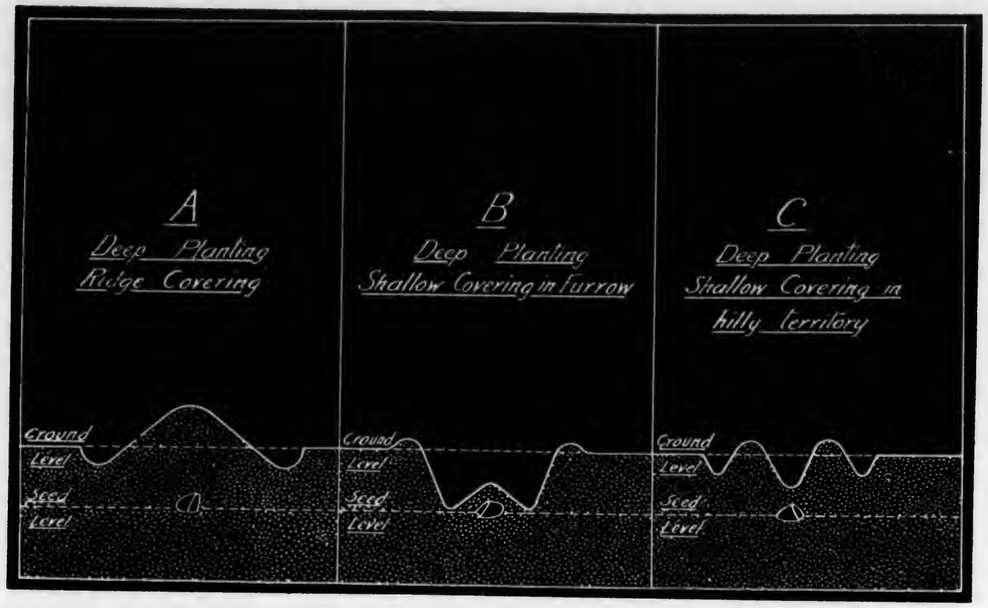


Fig. 7.—High ridges are deceitful. Seedpiece must be 3" to 4" below the level of the seed bed. Fertilizer should be to the side and a little below the seed.

adults of wire and grub worms seek out fields growing timothy in which to lay their eggs. In wire and grub worm countries, the potato growers should not have the fields in timothy the year the adult beetles are depositing their eggs.

This is easy to determine for your locality since they have a three-year cycle and it is the last year in the worm stage that they really do go after potatoes. I have seen a thirty-acre field of 400 bushels per acre half eaten up by white grubs. Believe it or not. By adhering to a short rotation using some legume crop —especially the year the adults deposit their eggs—both wire and grub worms can be eliminated.

Another indirect purpose of a rotation is to eliminate or eradicate certain noxious weeds—Canada thistles and the like. Don't try to eliminate "seed weeds" with a rotation.

Climate in relation to a rotation should be thought out quite clearly. Building the humus content of the soils of Potter County is entirely different from building it in Lancaster County. It is equally as different where a heavy clay soil is involved as compared to a sandy or gravelly shale soil even in the same temperature conditions (on the same isothermic line).

The time of planting potatoes is still a debated question in some localities. All things taken into consideration early planting has proven the most profitable. This is particularly true of the careful, particular potato grower. July planting often avoids certain weather hazards, in the forepart of the season, but it quite as often pushes one into a worse hazard in the afterpart of the season. There is a definite relationship between high yields and early planting.

It was almost unanimously agreed at the last Annual Meeting in January by nearly 300 growers that the optimum depth of planting in loose or sandy soils is 4 inches below the level. And for heavier soils and in high elevations two to three inches below the level.

It is easy to plant too deep in the cold soils of Potter County. Deep planting and shallow covering facilitates an early "Come up" and prevents rhizoctonia burning off the sprouts. A high ridge over the seed piece fools the growers into thinking he is planting deep, and if he is, a high ridge in addition keeps the seed too cool for quick germination. (Fig. 7.)

Distance of planting and the amount of seed per acre is dependent on the

(Continued on page 26)

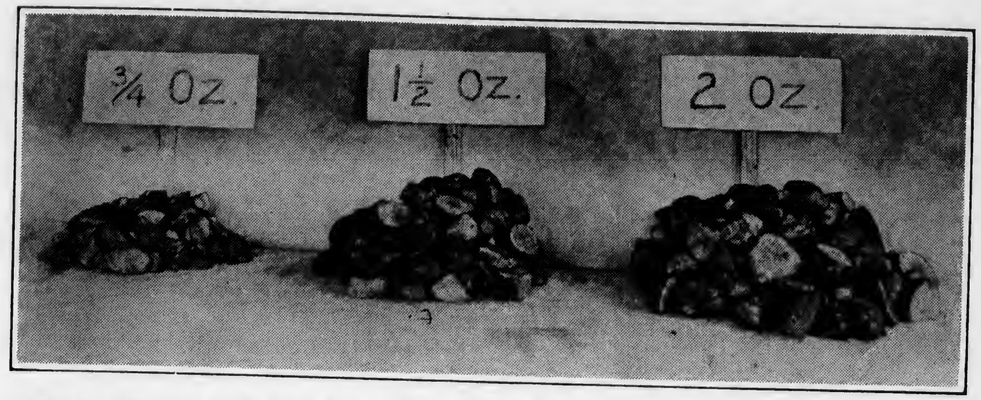


Fig. 8.—Know what you are doing—Cut a bushel the way you think they ought to be cut. Weigh and calculate or count how many seed pieces in a bushel. Apply the table below and you have the answer.

¾ Oz.	1½ Oz.	2 Oz.
10 X 30 = 16 bu. per A.	32 bu. per A.	43 bu. per A.
14 X 30 = 12 bu. per A.	23 bu. per A.	31 bu. per A.
10 X 32 = 15 bu. per A.	29 bu. per A.	40 bu. per A.
14 X 32 = 11 bu. per A.	22 bu. per A.	30 bu. per A.

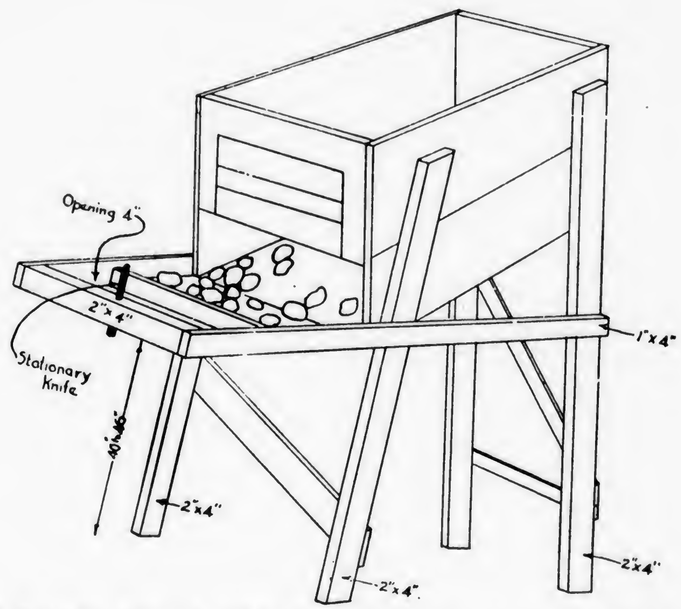


Fig. 9.—The Cutting Box. A great improvement over the old "Bag and Stool" method where gran-dad cut his eight to 10 bushels per day. A record shows that a man cut 81 bushels in nine hours using the above simplified "Cutting Box." There are man patented cutting machines on the market none of which are fool-proof.

LLOYD THOMPSON DENNISTON

1901 - 1943

L. T. Denniston received from and gave inspiration to the "home farm" near Slippery Rock, Butler County, before and while he was a student in Normal School and College. The Potato Growers' Association awarded its medal of award a Certificate of Merit to his father, "For the Vision and Knowledge in Establishing a Typical Pennsylvania Homestead Based on Profitable Potato Production."

"Denny" as he was familiarly known, carried this vision and inspiration throughout the length and breadth of the state from the time he graduated from college until his untimely passing —a period of fifteen years.

He was a devout believer in the Pennsylvania Potato Industry, its future development and expansion. While he was director of potato interests—Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, he prepared and had published what turns out to be the first Pictorial devoted exclusively to a single agricultural commodity in the nation—The Potato. This pictorial entitled, Pennsylvania's Quality Potatoes, had a wide demand, it went to a half dozen foreign countries and to half the states of the Union. It is responsible for many new potato growers locating their business in Pennsylvania. It initiated the first attempt of a publicly supported state agency in Pennsylvania to formally get out of the field of Agricultural Education or Regulation into the field of Promotion.

* * *

Human life is the journey of a day. We rise in the morning of youth, full of vigor, and full of expectations; we set forward with spirit and hope, with gayety and with diligence and travel on a while in the straight road toward our goal. In a short time we remit our fervor, and relax our vigor. By degrees we let fall the remembrance of our original intentions, or we approach them with scruple and hesitation, with timor and trembling.

We entangle ourselves in business and immerge ourselves in luxury or poverty and rove through the labyrinth of inconstancy 'till anxiety and disease obstruct our way.

Happy, indeed, are they who shall learn not to despair but shall remember that though the day is passed and their strength is wasted and the darkness of old age begins to invade their declining years, there yet remains one effort to be made for the cause that needs assistance, for the wrongs that need resistance, for the future in the distance, and the good that they can do, for reformation is never hopeless and sincere endeavors never unassisted.

L. DOYLE STUTZMAN

1898 - 1943

It is with deep sorrow that we record the death of L. Doyle Stutzman, Homer City, Penna., R. 1 (Indiana County). He died on the evening of February 14 at the age of 45, following an illness of two months. He was operated on at the Indiana Hospital about six weeks previous to his death.

Doyle was a former director of the Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers' Association. He was manager of the Indiana County Potato Growers' Association and was one of the best growers in the county. He harvested a crop of 11,000 bushels last season. Part of this crop was marketed in the 15 pound paper bags under the Association label. He and his son Doyle, Jr. were members of the 400 bushel club.

He is survived by Mrs. Stutzman, two sons and one daughter. The two sons will carry on the farming operations, which include ptoatoes, cabbage, seed oats, seed wheat, and soy beans.

Mr. Stutzman followed the practice of burying seed potatoes. The writer was on the farm on May 10, 1942 when the seed was coming out of the pit. The pit was 500 feet long and averaged 30 inches in depth, covered with two layers of straw and two layers of soil. On May 10 the potatoes were in a sound condition with very few sprouts. He again put 3,000 bushels in this same long pit, available for seed this spring.

—J. W. WARNER, *County Agent.*

MEMBERSHIPS — NEW AND RENEWALS

Since the last issue of "THE GUIDE POST"

John P. Moyer, Bally
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Kenneth G. Beachley, Harrisburg
Joseph Johnston, Berwindale
Wayne A. Hindman, Butler
Earl C. Mengel, Orwigsburg
M. L. VanWegen, Coudersport
P. E. Dougherty, Williamsport
Robert J. Aukeny, Jennerstown
John B. Glase, Danielsville
Charles J. D. Rauch, New Tripoli
F. H. Lubrecht, Hazleton
E. L. Whitaker, Walnutport
G. W. Heinle, Jr., Zanesville, O.
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John C. Kenderdine, Newtown
R. E. Weingart, Kent, Ohio
Harvey Geiger, Schnecksville
Allen T. Fink, Saegersville
Clarence F. Fink, Germansville
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G. L. Allen, Wysox
George V. Kutz, Kutztown
Robert A. Dresher, Ringtown
R. R. Searfoss, Dallas
John P. Martz, Hustontown
Melvin Scholler, Knobsville
Earl A. Jackson, Crystal Spring
Wallace Golden, Walfordsburg
Raymond Strobel, Cohocton, N. Y.
P. M. Titus, Neshaminy
John Oliver, Akron, Ohio
Russell Byler, New Wilmington
Granville D. Krause, Slatington
Robert I. Aten, Macungie
Doyle Stutzman, Homer City
Harry K. Fowler, Macungie
Wm. S. Weaver, Macungie
Robert T. Elder, Grove City
George D. Leiby, New Tripoli
John Richter, Duncannon
Morris Musser, Smithville, Ohio
Ward Hile, Pleasant Gap
Nelson Alderfer, Fountainville
Charles Gackenbach, Orefield
Howard G. Allen, New Park
Claude R. Miller, Sugarloaf
John J. Daniel, Hershey
Wm. J. D. Heintzelman, Schnecksville
O. J. Creitz, Schnecksville
A. W. Rich & Son, Dallas
Clark B. Hower, Danville
Andrew Abrazinska, Catawissa
H. Walter Rupp, Mechanicsburg
J. L. Knepper, Hustontown
Robert E. Rupert, Waterfall
E. S. Knepper, Robertsdale
Leo Rouzer, Laidig
William Naugle, Hunlock Creek
John C. Campbell, New Brunswick, New Jersey
Elias Z. Musser, Mt. Joy
John M. Dieter, Hegins
R. F. Snyder, Ashland
H. F. Diehl, Klingerstown
Irvin H. Schrope, Valley View
L. W. Kiesling, Valley View
Irving E. Artz, Kegins
Henry R. Stehr, Pitman
Arthur Otto, Hegins
Allen M. Snyder, Pitman
Lloyd S. Hern, Klingerstown
William H. Rebuck, Dornsife
Roy A. Gessner, Leck Kill
Joseph J. Yost, Schnecksville
Fuzzydele Farms, Elverson
Howard Boyd, Glenn Rock
James W. Wetzel, Mowry
John Schrope, Hegins
Curtis I. Shadle, Hegins
Kenneth Masser, Pitman
J. A. Rothermel, Klingerstown
Clyde R. Klouser, Hegins
Henry Wedde, Hegins
L. A. Kimmel, Valley View
J. M. Stehr, Pitman
W. E. Eshelman, Hegins
J. Emory Reitz, Leck Kill
John M. Davis, Coshocton, O.
St. Michael's Ind. School, Hoban Heights
Russel Goodling, Glen Rock

HOBBS ANTI-RACKETEERING BILL MAY COME TO HOUSE FLOOR FOR VOTE NEXT WEEK—Congressman Hobbs, of Alabama, expects his anti-racketeering bill to come before the House for legislative action the latter part of the week. With this possibility in mind, every member of the perishable industry should communicate with his Congressman **at once**, insisting on support of this measure.

There is one lesson taught by history, it is that the permanent greatness of any state must ultimately depend more upon the character of its country population than upon anything else—*Theodore Roosevelt.*

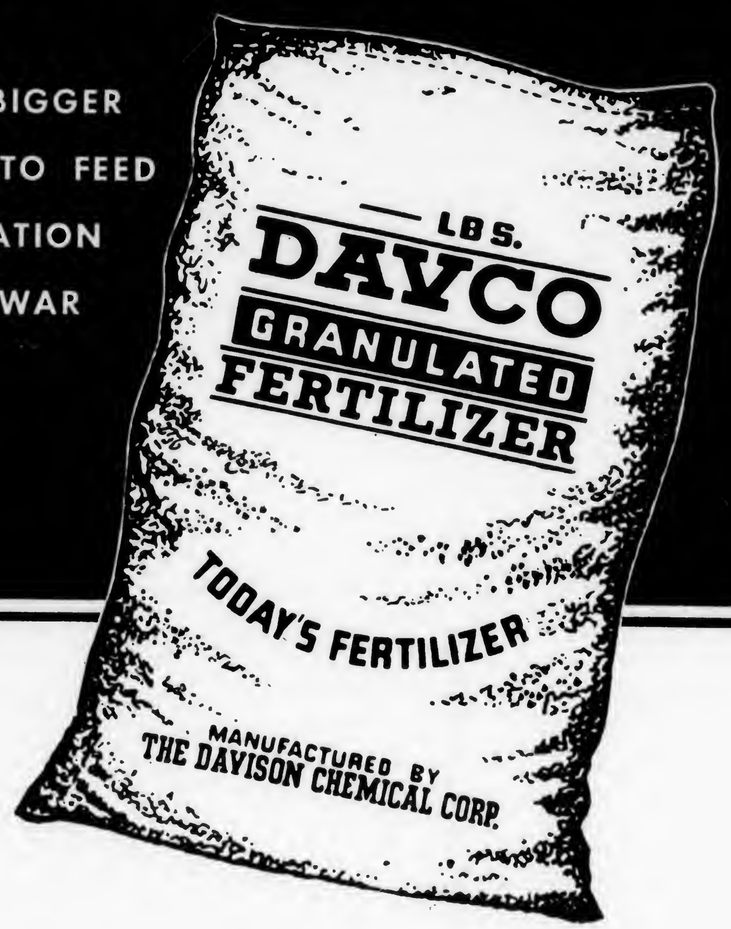
The vocation of every man and woman is to serve other people.—*Tolstoi.*

You who grow a

BASIC FOOD

Plan now to harvest a big crop of better quality potatoes this year! Davco Granulated increases yields because it drills evenly . . . feeds plants evenly without dust, waste or odor. Ask your dealer how you may get into the "better than average" class in 1943!

FOR BIGGER YIELDS TO FEED A NATION AT WAR



MORE ABOUT MEN—MACHINES—MATERIALS

P. Daniel Frantz, *Manager,* Allentown Branch,
Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers

Food will win the war! We all agree that this is one of the most important things and should have been considered first. We also know that without food we can lose the war. Of what good are men, machines, tanks, planes, guns, factories, if we don't have food to feed the people that operate these things? Having an abundance of food will also write the peace, especially so when people in Greece are starving by the thousands, the fate of the Poles—men and women —is to horrible to describe. All over Europe where the Nazi have marched, men and women are dying of malnutrition—all waiting for the nation to come in that has food to distribute, which will help to write the peace.

The world is armed to the teeth in a gigantic battle for survival. The nation that will feed their fighting men whether on battle fields, high seas, in the air, in the factories, the civilian population in our cities and homes, is the nation that will survive. It is a gigantic task, one which staggers the imagination and ingenuity of men.

Of one thing I am certain, that is, that during the coming year the American people will, one way or another, be fighting for butter, milk, and cheese, pork, beef, eggs, potatoes, and many other commodities. There are already many metropolitan and many other industrial areas where for days and even weeks few of these things are available. Up to date the American people have not been allowed to know really how bad conditions are. Those responsible for the situation on the whole content themselves with making speeches telling the farmer, who with his wife and children, is already working up to 18 hours a day, to work harder or telling the American people who are already doing without that they must learn to undergo further deprivations and hard-

(Continued on page 28)

SPRAY and DUST

with

MILLARD MODERN LIMES

Rotary Kiln Products

Crop Protection - Service - Reasonable Cost

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THE GUIDE POST

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Single Copies—25 cents

All communications should be addressed to C. F. H. Wuesthoff, Executive Secretary, Williamsport, Pennsylvania.

NEW FOOD CZAR—Chester C. Davis of the Bank of St. Louis succeeds Secretary of Agriculture Claude M. Wickard as our nation's number one Food Administrator. Secretary Wickard, is it rumored, will be appointed to coordinate the United Nation's Food Effort. **Food Production and Distribution** in the United States will be the concern of Mr. Davis who is expected to unify State and Federal Departments of Agriculture in this struggle for production and economical distribution.

* * *

USE THAT FARM EQUIPMENT—The manufacture of new equipment for food production has been reduced to the very minimum requirements. **Some growers have not enough** while again others will scarcely use theirs to capacity. This situation might sooner or later call for a move toward more efficient usage in one way or another. Custom plowing, custom combining, custom spraying, custom planting will become more general with the owner or his employee always the operator. This is fine but not the entire answer. Cooperative use of machinery has grown important in many producing areas with fairly satisfactory results. It does encourage more efficient capacity use of farm machinery.

* * *

COMMUNITY REPAIR CENTERS—Over 200 courses in maintenance and repairing of farm machinery are being conducted under the O.S.Y.A. Program administered by the Department of Public Instruction in many centers of this state. These courses are being supervised and directed by the vocational Agricultural teachers and supervisors of various counties. We have been privilged to observe over a dozen of these courses in operation and can say without qualification that they are doing a most worthwhile piece of work that assists the farmer in his war production program. Machinery and machinery parts are almost impossible to secure and it makes it most important that the old be made usable and serviceable. The finest job of this kind was observed in Fulton County under the direction of George L. Reisner, the county adviser, with most perfect assistance of Agriculture teachers Gerhart and Johnson. At Hustontown particularly the display of machinery was most outstanding. It is our hope that the services of these centers can be made available throughout the production season.

* * *

EXTENSIVE COOPERATIVE MARKETING—Plans are being worked out through the active participation of W. E. Eshelman, John Schrope and G. L. Geist, in the Hegins and Mahanoy Valleys. These communities believe definitely that their salvation depends upon self-help. They appreciate that eggs, apples, and potatoes, their cash crops, can be marketed in an orderly fashion through a workable cooperative. They see the fallacy of depending upon community and city buyers at whose mercy they always are. Committees are working tirelessly—the community is kept advised through dinners and gatherings of no mean proportions. We expect these groups to make history in the way of cooperation.

? CEILINGS AT RETAIL ?

Will Eliminate Complicated Regulations and Simplify Enforcement

"We assume that in establishing ceiling prices on perishables that it is the desire of the OPA to accomplish certain results, approximately as follows:

"1. To insure a fair consumer price.

"2. To permit selling prices which will produce a fair return to the producer (farmer) after making provision for expense of harvesting and marketing; also to permit of a fair margin of profit for wholesalers and retailers.

"3. To conserve every ounce of food supply for the benefit of the armed forces and the civilian population.

"4. To promulgate rules that will as nearly as possible not seriously interfere with normal production or if possible in some lines increase production, and that will permit of distribution through the regular channels of trade as heretofore in order that the farmer, the packer, the wholesaler and the retailer may be able to stay in business and serve the public to the best of their various abilities.

"Producing crops against complicated rules which prevent absolutely free distribution along the lines practiced in the past will contribute but little towards conserving the food supply. In fact, our opinion is that any regulation will retard production.

"There is such a variance in quality of vegetables that it appears to us that no plan can be evolved which would be workable that did not take this feature into consideration. For instance, by careful farming, cultivation, and fertilization one producer might and most likely would produce a quality which would constantly sell at the ceiling price whereas careless farming might and most likely would produce 'off quality' vegetables which at no time would sell at the ceiling price except during periods of very short supply at which time all would sell at the ceiling. Certainly it is not the policy of the OPA or any other governmental agency to encourage poor farming, or to penalize the farmer who exerts himself to get good production and good quality.

"There is no way to successfully circumvent the 'law of supply and demand'. The demand is subject to the whims of the American housewife, and experience has taught those of us engaged in the business that not even the oldest and most experienced operator can predict with any degree of certainty when the demand will be heavy and when it will be light even though there is an even flow of supply. There is no barometer which we can use with any degree of safety to determine the demand from day to day or week to week.

"We make the suggestion that all that is necessary to do to accomplish the purposes set out in paragraphs 1, 2, 3, and 4 herein is to establish a ceiling price with the retailer. If the retailer is limited in his selling price, he cannot afford to pay more than a fixed figure to the wholesaler, and likewise down the line to the producer.

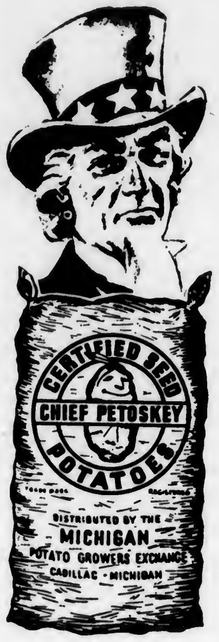
"THIS WOULD PERMIT 'FREE TRADING' WITHIN THE LIMITATIONS OF THE PRICE THE RETAILER COULD AFFORD TO PAY UNDER HIS CEILING."

Don't think too much about your rights and too little about your duties.

ALBERT C. ROEMHILD

All grades of potatoes handled to an advantage

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EVERY AMERICAN FARMER
SHOULD DO HIS UTMOST TO
INCREASE PRODUCTION

Outstanding Growers of 21 different states use

Chief Petoskey Brand
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Only the BEST SEED can produce the BEST RESULTS

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LETHANE 60. Used by your dust mixer to fortify botanical dusts. Replaces part of the rotenone or pyrethrum, stretches this country's supply of these imported botanicals, holds down cost. Yet you get a better, faster-killing dust. Look for the LETHANE 60 emblem on the tag when you buy rotenone or pyrethrum dust.

***Yellow*CUPROCIDE Spray.** Contains over 80% copper; only 1½ lbs. make 100 gals. spray at a cost comparable to Bordo. Gives you excellent blight control with no lime burn, no messy mixing. Can be used with rotenone or pyrethrum. *Yellow* CUPROCIDE is non-corrosive, saves on machinery repairs, lessens clogging of nozzles.

CUPROCIDE Dust. Made by your dust mixer with *Yellow* CUPROCIDE. Doesn't require moisture—dust day or night. Contains no lime to burn your skin or reduce crop yield. The billions of copper particles in each pound of dust stick tight and protect your crop from blight. To get CUPROCIDE Dust, look for this emblem on the tag:

LETHANE *and* CUPROCIDE *are trade-marks, Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.*

THIS DUST CONTAINS LETHANE 60 AN INSECTICIDE CONCENTRATE MADE BY ROHM & HAAS COMPANY

THIS DUST CONTAINS CUPROCIDE A FUNGICIDE MADE BY ROHM & HAAS COMPANY

ROHM & HAAS COMPANY
WASHINGTON SQUARE, PHILADELPHIA, PA.
Manufacturers of LETHANE 60 and CUPROCIDE

Why Agrico

GROWS MORE #1's PER ACRE

HISTORY repeats . . . in time of war the emphasis is always on food-crop production. Now more than ever you'll want to make every acre produce its utmost. And that's where Agrico comes in.

From Maine to Minnesota . . . north, south, east and west . . . leading potato growers have proved — proved in terms of measured yields and extra cash returns in side-by-side tests — that Agrico for Potatoes produces more No. 1's per acre. And potatoes pay out in No. 1's!

Why Agrico Pays Out Better

There's a reason — several reasons, in fact — why Agrico grows true-to-type potatoes . . . smoother, cleaner, more uniform in size: (1) There's an Agrico specially formulated to grow potatoes in your local soils and under your local growing conditions; (2) based on over 80 years' experience, Agrico supplies all the needed plant-food elements in just the right form and in the proper balance; (3) by constantly testing soils and measuring crop results, Agrico is kept abreast of the changing needs of the changing soil.



Let Agrico help you take full advantage of today's opportunity . . . use Agrico on your own farm . . . profit by the all-important difference Agrico makes in yield, and above all, in better crop quality.

Agrico is Manufactured ONLY by

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THE JUNIOR-GUIDE POST

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All communications concerning the Junior Cooperative Potato Growers' Association should be addressed to either Secretary, Daniel W. Keener, Neffs, Penna., or C. F. H. Wuesthoff, Gen'l. Manager, 410 Campbell St., Williamsport, Penna.

Announcing:

A Project Plan CONTEST

$10 for the BEST WORKABLE—POTATO PROJECT PLAN for 1943

Submitted to this office on or before May 15th.

Consult page 25 for suggestions

C. F. H. Wuesthoff, Exec. Sec.
Penna. Cooperative Potato Growers
410 Campbell St., Williamsport, Pa.

Splendid Beginning

Chapters and Club Cooperation

The Liberty Chapter report arrived before any other of 350. The response to an appeal for a complete list of potato growers in the different sections of the state was most gratifying. F. F. A. Chapters and Clubs were most energetic in securing this list which this association sincerely appreciates. It is another fine piece of cooperation. We feel that much good will come of this survey. The following Chapters and Advisers were the first ten to report in the order named:

1. Liberty Chapter—Jesse Cutler
2. Stewartstown Chapter—H. Palmer Hopkins
3. Hollidaysburg Chapter — Glenn Bressler
4. Scott Chapter—Boyd C. Gartley
5. Mt. Union Chapter—John B, Hartzler
6. Dillsburg Chapter—H. H. Spoerlein
7. Sparta Chapter—Telford S. Berkey
8. Bellwood-Antis Chapter — Harry Knox
9. W. Sunbury Chapter—J. P. Bressler
10. Jersey Shore Chapter—E. A. Rice

Attention:

JUNIOR GROWERS

Beginning with this issue of the GUIDE POST (March, 1943) page 20 and succeeding pages, as many as necessary, will be entirely devoted to the interests of the Junior Potato Growers. A membership campaign will soon be launched to enroll all young people interested in general agriculture and potatoes particularly. This will give the "coming" producers of food an opportunity to express themselves and secure the attention and recognition that they deserve. It is the wish and desire of the officers and directors of the Junior Growers to keep these pages practical and interesting so that others may learn of outstanding achievements. Members and directors are asked to contribute information whenever this information can serve a purpose—that is, Advance The Potato Industry of Pennsylvania. **Leo H. Stout** was selected to head up an editorial board but due to his induction into the military forces it leaves us short-handed until such time as his successor may be appointed. **Achievement stories, experiences, anecdotes with pictures,** will all be most acceptable. Send them on to either your Secretary, D. W. Keener, Neffs, Penna., or C. F. H. Wuesthoff, 410 Campbell Street, Williamsport, Penna. The more the better!

KNOW YOUR JUNIOR COOPERATIVE POTATO GROWERS OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS — 1943

This newly organized and most promising group of young growers will do things in agriculture "unheard of". They are young, ambitious, industrious and enthusiastic. Many plans are in the offing. Plans for the future; plans for the present. Plans that are thought provoking and stimulating, some perhaps will never bear fruit—"Pipe Dreams" maybe, but gentlemen — give me the man with ideas and plans—plans that are bold with a thought toward an improved, prosperous agriculture wherein the generation "coming on" will profit morally and materially; plans that will tend toward independence of thoughts and actions—plans that will *include* themselves in their own future. In order that a high percentage of the plans be carried out to successful conclusions we have banded together to assist and cooperate. As individuals some might be accomplished but as a group working together nothing is really impossible. "Camp Potato", the Mecca of the Potato Grower, and its facilities are included within our plans, cooperative marketing of Blue Label potatoes is planned as a major activity, practical and inspirational assistance to all junior growers will eminate from this fine group action. The possibilities in making the Pennsylvania Potato Industry attractive, business like and a satisfaction from the angle of the junior grower are unlimited.

Accordingly, we are pleased to present the following officers and directors who will operate much as the parent or senior organization. A section in the GUIDE POST will be devoted solely in the interest of this, The Pennsylvania Junior Cooperative Potato Growers' Association.

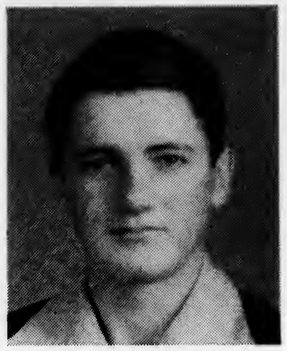
MISTER PRESIDENT



Leo H. Stout, of Potter County, was selected to represent the Junior Growers of the North central area of the state. When the original plans for the Junior growers association were first presented at the Potato Growers Annual Meeting, January 12th, Leo immediately saw the possibilities of such an organization and promptly took the initiative. He was in Harrisburg on that date as a F.F.A. delegate to the state convention of Keystone Farmer. He furthermore proposed a state wide campaign for Junior and Senior members under the auspices of the former group.

Leo Stout is an outstanding young leader in the Shinglehouse High School where he participated in most worthwhile activities; dramatics, orchestra leader, Sunday School teacher, President of his F.F.A. chapter, were some of his favorite activities. He has been working diligently to keep himself in school. Selective Service and the raft found it necessary to call him into military service. This Association, Juniors and Seniors alike, wish him the best of luck! We hope he returns safely with a world of fine experiences and with his usual enthusiasm.

MISTER VICE-PRESIDENT



Calvin Will, of **Somerset County**, representing southwestern Junior potato growers, is a recent graduate of the Agricultural Department of the Somerset High School. Co-worker on the home farm sharing project profits. His major farm interests are potato production and hog raising. This year he has gone into partnership on the E. M. Knepper Farm in Berlin, Brothersvalley township. Calvin was and is most active in F.F.A. circles locally and has been selected as State Reporter in the Keystone Chapter which degree he proudly displays. This year his duties will be most heavy yet pleasant for as vice-president of the Pennsylvania Junior Cooperative Potato Growers' Association, he falls heir to the presidency since our President, Leo H. Stout, has been called into the military ranks of Uncle Sam. Calvin's job on the Production and Morale Line will tax his good judgment and perseverance in the interest of the Penna. Potato Industry. He is all for Pennsylvania's maintaining its high rank among other states in the Union.

✣ ✣ ✣

MISTER SECRETARY



Daniel W. Keener of *Lehigh County* will represent the growers of southeastern Pennsylvania where he already grows, grades and packs Blue Label potatoes. He has sold thousands through the association and is most active in the marketing of other vegetables. Dan is most active in his community, he is a member of the Rod & Gun Club, Schnecksville Grange, the Dramatic Society and several fraternal organizations. He is married and the father of two children. His hobby is hunting and fishing and excels in these to no small degree. We are confidentally advised that his ability to impersonate and entertain is hard to improve upon. We can imagine him in the role of organizing young peoples' groups at "Camp Potato"—What an asset this will be to our "Mecca".

Harold Henninger of *Northampton County* the spokesman for the Junior growers of the east central area is a native of Catasaukua where he is an associate of his father on a several hundred acre general farm. The major enterprises are steers, hogs and hens with a considrable acreage of potatoes, corn and soybeans. The greater part of their potatoes this year were graded, packed and marketed the Blue Label Pennsylvania Cooperative way. Harold is married and is the proud father of a one week old baby at this writing. (We should expect cigars soon.) Harold has a weakness for all kinds of farm machinery which he operates and maintains most capably.



✣ ✣ ✣



Harold Holmes of *Erie County,* representing Northwestern Junior Growers, hails from the celebrated Waterford cabbage district and graduated from the Waterford Joint High School with an outstanding scholastic and vocational record. He is one of the few Keystone Farmers of the State, a community worker and a Granger interested in the agricultural development of his county. Harold is married and enjoys living on and managing a large well-equipped dairy farm with potatoes his main cash crop. We understand that he managed and operated a community spray-ring very successfully.

✣ ✣ ✣

John Wallas, of *Lawrence County,* has been selected to represent the Junior Potato Growers of the central west (Penna.). John graduated from the Eastbrook High School in 1941 where he studied vocational agriculture for four years. He acted very ably as president of his local chapter during his senior year and participated in its many cooperative ventures. John is one of the partners on a sizeable dairy farm in excellent state of cultivation. The Wallas' additional cash comes from a 4 to 5 acre field of potatoes, economically managed. John took several short courses at Penn State and after numerous attractive offers decided to remain on this fine family managed farm.



Samuel Holubec of *Centre County*, proposes to keep this county within the ranks of the potato growers. He will speak for the central area of the state. A graduate of the Bellefonte High School and a past president of his F.F.A. Chapter. He is a Keystone Farmer representing his county in a number of contests and conventions. He has ranked in the upper third of his high school classes and has won several gold medals in state competition together with numerous ribbons and prizes at the Centre Hall Grange Fair and the recent Williamsport Fair. At the latter he won a $100 scholarship presented by the Williamsport Rotary Club. During his four years of high school career, he conducted eleven home projects most satisfactorily. He is characterized as a leader with a yenn for thoroughness in every detail. His former instructors insist that "he is a leader capable of contributing much to any group with whom he may become associated."



✣ ✣ ✣



Leo Rouser of *Fulton County* will represent the Junior growers of the south central area of the state. Leo is a sincere young man of eighteen, lives on a general farm located on the Pennsylvania Super-Highway. He is one of the outstanding F.F.A. boys of the Taylor Township Chapter. Through his cooperation and leadership his chapter is doing a marvelous job of cooperating in the interest of community development through Spray-Rings, Early Plant Forcing, Certified Seed Distribution, Tomato Planting and Farm Machinery Repairing.

He is Junior Class Vice-President, a "runner up" for officer honors in his chapter, an accordian and trumpet player who loves basketball, baseball and soccer. His hobby is "touring the country".

He expects to grow three acres of potatoes the business like way in 1943. Leo is sincere, studious and a promising truth-seeking future farmer.

James Helwig, Catawissa, Very modest and most "Camera Shy" see April Issue—Junior Section of THE GUIDE POST.

— THE POTATO PROJECT PLAN —

It Should be Complete and Workable

A complete meaningful *Project Plan* "drawn up" before the home enterprise is undertaken is usually most difficult to write for most students of agriculture. This does not mean that it should not be done, nor does it mean that it is not necessary—on the contrary, a plan should be formulated. An engineer, an architect, a contractor makes up a blue print with specifications long before any job is undertaken. There are many reasons for this—these same reasons apply to any undertaking that is expected to be successful. Farm operations without definite well thought out plans previous to the doing have "two strikes" against them even before the project is launched.

Incidentally, Dad and Mother would like to know your plans, they should know if you expect their whole-hearted cooperation. Your banker—who may be your Dad—wants to know what his risks are too. The following is an outline that might well be used as a *guide* in formulating a *complete workable* plan. It is only an outline that should be developed into details that would explain the "Hows"—"Whats"—and the "Whys". When the Project Plan is complete the student should have a complete picture of the whole project. If a rank outsider were to look for potato raising information—this plan should give him a full story of workable information.

Here is a Contest

A PRIZE OF $10.00 will be offered by the editor of THE GUIDE POST for the best all inclusive Potato Project Plan for 1943. Submit your plan on or before May 15th, 1943. All junior growers of Vocations Schools, F.F.A. Chapters or 4-H Clubs are eligible to compete.

Suggested: Outline for a potato Project

I. *The Home Project*
   1. What
   2. Purpose

II. *Possible Projects* and my selection
   1. List kinds and scope
   2. My project and why this decision

III. *Jobs involved* in their *logical* and seasonal *order*
   1. Selection of land
   2. Seed source—variety, amount, etc.
   3. Fitting—time, depth, etc.
   4. Fertilizing—kind, amount, application, etc.
   5. Planting—time, cutting, depth, covering, etc.
   6. Cultivation—depth, time, etc.
   7. Weeding—when, why, how
   8. Spraying — mixing, power, time, etc.
   9. Digging—machine adjustment, etc.
   10. Storage — requirements, construction, etc.
   11. Grading and Packing — packages, grades, etc.
   12. Marketing—business, accounts

IV. *Jobs thought out and explained.*
   (One or more paragraphs should explain thoroughly the jobs listed above in 3.)
   Use recognized practical references in your study

V. *Records* and *Accounts* to be kept
   1. Labor
   2. Expense
   3. Receipts
   4. Summary
   5. Diary

VI. Possible *Expense* and *Possible* Returns
   1. Cash outlay required
   2. List expense involved
   3. List receipts reasonably expected
   4. Etc.

VII. *Recognized References*
   "The Potato" by W. B. Stuart, J. B. Lippincott
   "Potato Culture in Pennsylvania" — Circular 167, Penna. State College
   "Fertilizing Farm Crops" — Circular 208, Penna. State College
   "Potato Disease and Control" — Circular 218, Penna. State College
   "Profitable Potato Spraying" — Circular 137, Penna. State College
   PRODUCTION PHAMPLETS
   "Humus and a Root Bed '43"—The Guide Post, February, 1943
   "A Prosperous Potato Industry"—The Guide Post, March, 1943
   "Harvesting and Storage" — The Guide Post, September, 1942; June, 1942; May, 1942; April, 1942; March, 1942.

A PROSPEROUS POTATO INDUSTRY

(Continued from page 10)

fertility level of the field and the kind of season (if one could only know) and the cost of the seed. It would be a wonderful idea if all potato rows could be standardized at 32 inches. There would need be only one width of all equipment. This would result in millions of dollars saving to the potato industry. After all it is the farmer who pays for all of the array of tradition bound row widths of equipment.

Since the market trends are for larger and larger potatoes it seems that spacing in the rows should be extended a little. Since seed is high this might be an economic procedure this year. In addition to this fertilizer may be cut in both quantity and quality so that a little greater spacing may be advisable to be sure of the usual or a little larger sizes of tubers.

Fertilization

If there is any one thing in potato production that ought to be definitely established it is this matter of fertilizers —both the analysis and the amount per acre. 4-8-7 was so popular in the early days that the fertilizer bags almost established a brand name for potatoes in the market.

Observations and study of the foliage, its development and structure, its reaction to temperature fluctuations and disease points quite conclusively to the need of a higher phosphorus content in the analysis up to 12 per cent. This has rendered all varieties a little more hardy and resistant to late blight.

There can be no doubt also that an increase in potash up to at least 12 per cent has made for a better Culinary quality potato in several varieties, particularly the rurals. This was determined, not in a test tube, but in a larger way through the kitchens of the Hershey Industrial School and Mr. B. A. Rockwell in cooperation with the American Potash Institute — Mr. Sam Gray and "Camp Potato." On the basis of these studies, and taking everything into consideration a thousand pounds per acre, depending on the soil fertility level, of a 4-12-12 analysis or multiples of this is the nearest to the ideal—if it is safe to talk about an ideal fertilizer analysis for the potato grower.

Further tests at "Camp Potato" indicate that heavy excess amounts of Potash over the 4-12-12 analysis accelerates leaf roll in some varieties particularly rurals and accelerates mosaic in many other varieties particularly the green mountain types. These results are not in mere "traces" but rather phenomenal. All the facts have not been worked out yet but the work is in progress.

Weed Eradication

There are two types of weeds that confront the potato grower—One type the annual "seed weeds" is with all growers; the other, the perennial underground type such as thistles and quack grass still persists with some growers.

Thistles, quack grass and the like do not belong with the potato grower or on the potato farm. They can be completely eradicated in two seasons at no great cost—and like most hazards of the potato grower they exact a cost in every rotation whether they are eliminated or not.

To eradicate these underground stolon or stem type of weeds plow the patch in question deep in late June or early July just after the "flush growth" has occurred and the food supply stored in the stems or stolons is low or exhausted. Work the soil down so that none of the green tops show. Sow at least two bushels and a peck of soy beans per acre. Let lay over winter, and the next June plow and plant to soybeans. Combine the beans if desired or disc in time to sow to wheat or plow under the following spring for potatoes. It will be the end of the "thistle patch."

Seed Weed Eradication

Seed Weeds are everywhere — they cannot be rotated out of potato fields. The seeds of most of them will remain visible in the soil for years. The common weeds of the potato patch are, red root (sometimes called pig weed or amaranthus), lamb's quarter, purslone, crab grass and fox tail (sometimes called fall grass).

Fortunately the same control measures applies to all of them, and in the end "if you never see any you will never have any," and it means just that. The only economical time to kill seed weeds is before they can be seen. When the weeds show green it is too late to do an efficient or economical job of controlling them.

Ideally here is the economical procedure: plant your potato seed pieces deep, the average optimum depth is

three inches below the **level** surface, cover shallow with an inch or two of soil. Ten days or two weeks later "blind" cultivate deep and close to the rows, move or cover all of the surface. One week later even the weeder or spring or spike tooth harrow just deep enough to avoid pulling up any of the seed pieces. Continue this at weekly intervals or after each rain until the rows are visible —then cultivate deep and close just so the plants and seed pieces are not moved. Continue the weeder at weekly intervals or **after each rain** whether any seeds are visible or not. Slip in an occasional cultivation just often enough to keep the surface as rough and cloddy as possible. Nothing is worse for the potato field than to have the surface too smooth and too fine, especially on the heavy soil types. It is much easier to control weeds with the weeder if the surface is rough than if it is smooth and hard. Also a rough surface takes up rain and prevents run-off in gulleys much better than a smooth, fine surface. You will find that three or four cultivations properly spaced and seven to ten times over with the weeder, depending on the season, will absolutely grow a field clean of weeds. The weeder can always be safely run much longer than the inexperienced potato grower thinks. The rows should be absolutely free of weeds until the vines are large enough to furnish sufficeint shade to keep them down. Remember if you cannot see **any weeds** in the rows until the potato vines shade them well, there will never be any.

The depth of the cultivating should be determined by what is done at the last cultivation. If ridging is to be done, then the former cultivation should have been as deep as one goes to supply the ridge. In other words **do not** cultivate shallow and then at the last one go through and tear up the established root system to get enough soil to supply the ridge.

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MORE ABOUT MEN - MACHINES - MATERIALS

(Continued from page 15)

ships. Very little that is constructive has been done, the emphasis has always been entirely upon doing without.

I think it fair to say that no practical over-all plan has yet been made to help the farmer produce more. On the contrary one obstacle after another has been placed in his way either by circumstances or by bureaucracy itself. At this very writing there is in Washington a new and expensive bureau being organized under the able direction of Ex-Governor Lehman of New York, whose task it will be to feed the starving population of half the world. WITH WHAT? We are not even feeding ourselves and our soldiers without grave scarcities in certain important foods.

You may well ask, "How can such a condition come about in the richest agricultural nation of the world—a nation which once had the finest of agricultural equipment?" The answer I think, is very simple—that food production, like so many other vital phases of the war on the home front, has from the beginning been neglected or passed by. There has never been any authentic coordinated food production program. Trained labor, skilled labor, machinery and equipment have been taken away from the farmer. His fertilizers have been curtailed and their contents adulterated. Now dairy and poultry feeds and the vital protein and mineral supplements are also being curtailed and adulterated.

The only aid he has received have been vague propositions like a dream of three million volunteer workers and subsidies of a hundred million dollars of tax-payers' money, which no farmer wants not even the Farm Lobby. Subsidies of vast sums of tax-payers' money cannot be planted and harvested. Dollar bills cannot be used as fertilizer or dairy feed, nor can dollar bills milk cows, tend chickens, feed hogs, or plant and spray potatoes. Subsidies, even in astronomical sums, do not even provide the labor and the machinery and equipment which are largely unattainable.

The farmer does not want and cannot use a hundred million dollar subsidides or dream armies of three million green club women and children! What he wants and in about this order are skilled labor (such as tractor operators, operators of all kinds of machinery and equipment on the farms, one that understands fertilizer and Bordeaux Mixture) and last but not least semi-skilled labor.

We are still losing what remains of our skilled labor—that vital and irreplaceable skilled labor, without which food cannot be produced at all. There have been all sorts of vague directives issued recently about farm labor but no orders have been given. Every draft board in the country still continues to function on a different basis, and skilled farm labor is at this very moment still being taken off farms to put into a gigantic swollen army which we may not be able to feed. Certainly it will be fed only at the expense of the American citizens.

The over-all responsibility for this shocking condition must be borne, I think, by those in charge. There is no open evidence of a sensible plan for food production ever having been really considered. There is no evidence whatever of any plan now being put forward before the House Investigating Committee. The responsibility also rests on those in charge for taking away from the farmers their equipment, repairs, and machinery.

The total amount of steel required for the production of farm machinery involved in this key problem of food is only a tiny fraction of the gigantic steel production of the nation. I have been told that a release of steel to be manufactured into agricultural equipment could not be any good for the year 1943 but at its best would be available for 1944.

To the theories of the Office of Price Administration must be assigned the responsibility for the appalling confusion of the production supply and distribution of food. By a series of painful ceilings it produced economical chaos in the field of farm production. For instance, by putting a ceiling on the processed meat and none upon beef on the hoof, the price per pound of the animals on the hoof in some cases rose up to or above the level of ceilings on dressed beef. Hundreds of thousands of head of cattle were dumped upon the market straight from the field without being fattened. This meant a loss of from one to three hundred pounds per head of good meat which was never created—a loss of many millions of pounds in the

(Continued on page 30)

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(Continued from page 28)

total meat production of the country.

The same ceiling regulations combined with the acute shortage of skilled dairy labor forced into the hands of the butcher many thousands of good milking cows which in this time of desperate need for dairy products might have produced milk and cream. There are many things about farming which most of our agencies do not understand. One of them is that not everybody can be a farmer and a producer of food. An entire plot of potatoes can be ruined in a single cultivation or in one spray operation by being left to an unskilled farm hand. A dairy herd can be ruined in six weeks by a green hand, a poultry project-large or small—can be wiped out in a few days if left in the hands of unskilled labor. Expensive farm equipment of the kind in use on farms today cannot be intrusted to an untrained unskilled farm laborer, and especially so when it is difficult and almost impossible to obtain repair parts.

Now at this time the farmers are thinking and have to make up their minds in the very near future whether they want to lay out hundreds of dollars in fertilizers and seed, which plans have to be decided on for the operation of his farm projects for this coming season. The problem on his mind is, "Will I have the labor, the chemicals and the repairs on breakdowns to carry the crop through to maturity, harvest, and put them in storage in the fall of the year?"

Factors which will increase production are adequate prices and suficient labor. Factors which are retarding production and which must be corrected are: restrictions on farm equipment and supplies, restrictions and irritating regulations of different agencies on farmers causing a sinking morale among farm people. Farmers like other people will accept restrictions if they are necessary to win the war; but in applying regulations affecting farm people, the conditions under which they live and work should be recognized. It seems to be a peculiar trait of regulators to assume all farmers are dishonest.

The nation needs food. The farmers produce it in their own time-tried way that will not be changed very much by a lot of untried theory. Any increased production program must recognize this. There are many conflicting policies and regulations that have confused and disturbed.



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Owing to the growing importance of potash in potato production and the large applications made by successful growers, there is no crop on which these findings are of greater significance. A good stand of potatoes should have at least 200 lbs. of potash (K_2O) available for its use. If you do not know how much your soil will provide, your county agent or experiment station will make soil tests for you.

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CHECK IRON AGE BEFORE STORING

Frank H. Hamm and his son, Clark of New Tripoli, Lehigh County, Pennsylvania, check over their Iron Age 2 row Automatic Potato Planter before they store it for the winter. They carefully cleaned the fertilizer hopper, cleaned and oiled all moving parts and lubricated the wheels. They can be sure their planter will be in tip top shape for the new season. Mr. Hamm and his son farm 98 acres, 28 of which they plant in potatoes. He has been farming for nearly 30 years and has always been a great booster for Iron Age equipment. He particularly appreciates the increased yields and savings in scarce fertilizer made possible by the Band Way method. America is fighting an all out war—a war in which food is as important as ammunition. The time saving equipment you now have *must* last. Keep what you have in the best shape you can.



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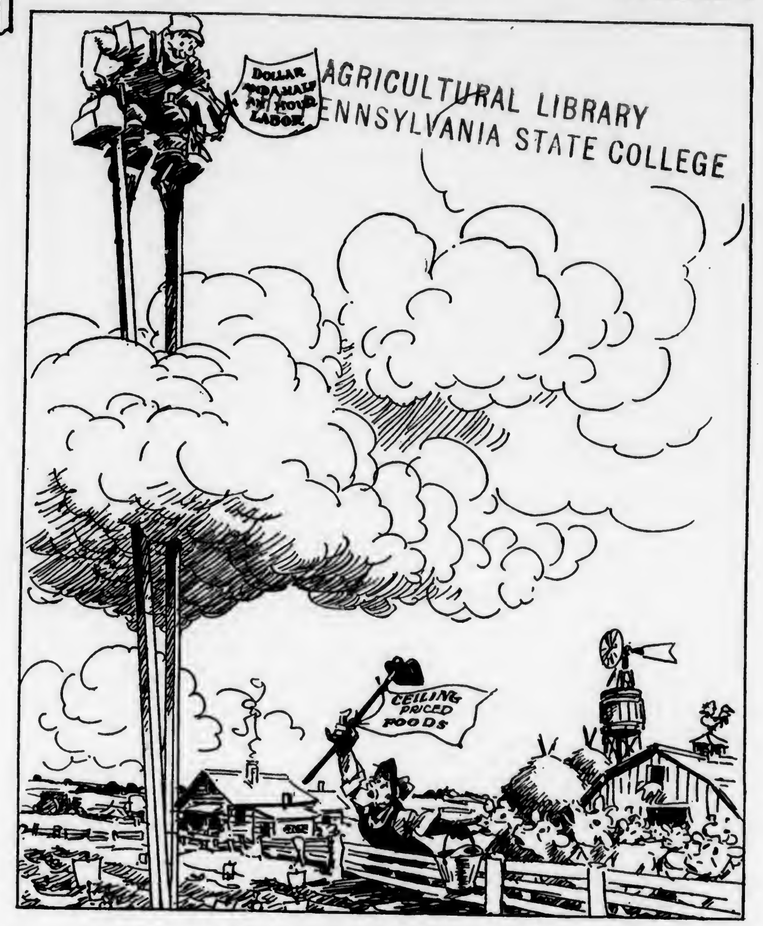
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VISION OF PENNSYLVANIA GROWERS

THE GUIDE POST

VOLUME XX NUMBER 4



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WHO PLANNED THIS "PLANNED ECONOMY"?

Courtesy GAZETTE & BULLETIN, Williamsport



APRIL — 1943

Published by the

PENNSYLVANIA COOPERATIVE POTATO GROWERS ASSOCIATION

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Volume XX **April, 1943** **Number 4**

THE "WHY" OF FOLIAGE PROTECTION

DR. E. L. NIXON

A program leading to a profitable potato industry involves the consideration of *Yield,* concerned with *Foliage Protection,* involving (1) proper spraying in relation to climate (2) deep root system, (3) proper culture.

Foliage protection involves as constant a supply and distribution of water to the plants and as cool soil temperature under natural conditions as is practicable to attain.

It takes seasons of extreme weather conditions such as abnormally wet or abnormally dry to impress most potatoes growers with the importance of protecting the potato foliage. An extremely wet season with an accompanying late blight epidemic often serves to show growers the importance of protecting the potato foliage. An extremely wet season with an accompanying late blight epidemic often serves to show growers the importance of spraying. Conversely an extremely dry season brings out the importance of deep planting, a deep root system, and the proper system of cultivating in maintaining the plants vitality thus rendering them responsive to proper spraying. See Fig. 1. It is under both of these extreme conditions of moisture and drought that Pennsylvania potato growers procure the most consistant profits from proper spraying. It almost goes without saying that a poorly planted, poorly weeded and improperly cultivated potato field will respond very poorly and often unprofitably to spraying.

All foods of mankind have their origin directly or indirectly in the leaves of plants. The magnitude of food manufacturing by the leaves far exceeds the energy expended in all the industries of the world.

By the action of the energy of sunlight, green leaves convert or combine carbon dioxide obtained from the air and water from the soil into food products.

Why not use the two billion tons of carbon dioxide which belches from our chimneys every year, combine it with water and make our sugar and carbohydrates?

Assuming that we had the necessary knowledge or power possessed by the chloroplasts of green leaves for such a complete synthesis, the question is can it be done cheaply as the Pennsylvania potato grower can do it with his potato leaves. For it requires the energy expressed by a temperature of approximately 2500 degrees fahrenheit to decompose carbon dioxide. Yet these decompositions and recompositions are brought about in the green tissues of leaves in so subtle a way that most people are not conscious of it. Thus the leaves of plants are the only food manufacturing factories known to man. So-called food factories manufacture no food. Butchers cut animals into steaks and chops, other processors convert various cereals into macaroni and delicious breakfast foods but all of these processed foods had their origin in the leaves of plants.

The dream and ambition of the industrial chemist is to synthesize food. It looks simple on the surface. A pound of sugar, a pound of ammonia, a little



Fig. 1.—A HALF A CROP OF LEAVES, A HALF A CROP OF POTATOES. Proper spraying prevents the occurrance of fields which look like this area. Dead vines produce no potatoes. Half dead vines produce less than half a crop. Every spot, hole or burned edge on the leaf reduces the yield in exactly the ratio that such spots, holes or burned edges bear to the entire leaf area.

rain water, a pinch of sulphur, and a dash of phosphorus and a few other minerals and presto, a synthetic porterhouse steak! The trouble is, even so, how to obtain the sugar! It is still a leaf product, composed of 12 carbons, 22 hydrogens, and 11 oxygens, written C12-H22-O11. It has been synthesized only by leaves of plants.

Even if food is synthesized some of these days it must be a kind of food our stomachs like, and the stomach is an organ which will not be dictated to. The human body is a very complex and very balanced organism; its metabolism is secret information and deeply buried. If this handicap is hurdled, the area of the synthetic diet will begin to dawn only after mankind has been weaned away from the enjoyment of a full stomach. Probably long before the day of the synthetic diet, animals and animal products as food of man will disappear, for animals can literally eat us out of house and home. They are woefully inefficient in converting plant food into human food.

The laying hen returns only one part in twenty of the food she eats in the form of eggs. One sixth of the ingoing corn stays on the hog as usable human food. In the case of beef the ratio is one to thirty. Any laboratory process which would not beat this would be discarded for gross inefficiency.

From all of this it would indicate that the farmer will have a job for many generations to come in producing crops for usable human food. It ought to serve to show the importance and magnitude of green leaves in the economy of this world of ours.

In the case of potatoes it is done in this manner. The roots gather up soil moisture, a "pinch" of several minerals, and transport this solution through the fibro-vascular bundles (the woody part of the potato stem-under the microscope they look like bundles of tubes) to the leaves—the chloroplasts (the green of leaves) by the action of the energy of the sun convert or combine this soil solution with carbon dioxide (the breath of animals and the smoke from chimneys, into carbohydrates. These carbohydrates are then transported down through the phloem of the potato stems and stored in the form of tubers. Even the leaves of potatoes are rich in food products. At any rate potato bugs thrive and get fat on them. Animals of all kinds can and do acquire the flavor of green potato tops and thrive on them.

Many types of fungui also attack the potato foliage notably late blight, a mildew. It is the part of good potato growing to preserve all of the potato foliage—for a half of a crop of leaves means a half of a crop of tubers. Fig. 1.



Fig. 2.—It has been found ALL THINGS CONSIDERED that lump lime, properly slaked, is the best form of lime to use. You only have to go back half a generation to find in the Bulletins of New York, New Jersey, Maine and Pennsylvania that potato spraying is reported to be unprofitable. Potato spraying becomes the most profitable single operation in connection with potato growing only when it is done with exactness as to (1) TIME of applying; (2) MANNER of applying (nozzle adjustment at proper pressure); and (3) MATERIAL (8-8-100 Bordeaux mixture properly made). A lot of people, growers and specialists, got off on the dusting foot. But after a decade of agitation—growers, who make their living growing potatoes, are spraying.

It has been found that the best preservative of potato foliage is 8-8-100 Bordeaux mixture, *properly mixed* and *properly applied* at *timely intervals*.

It has been found that *all things considered* lump lime properly slaked is the best form of lime to use. See Fig. No. 2. It has been found that 300-400 lbs. pressure and proper nozzle construction and adjustment are essential for the most profitable returns from spraying. See Fig. No. 3.

It has been found, all things considered, that the *first* application should be made as soon as *one can follow the rows*. See Fig. 4. It has been found, all things considered, that the *second* and *third* sprays should be made at not *longer* than *seven day* intervals.

It has been found that during periods of extreme heat (90 degrees F.) the intervals should not be longer than six days between sprays. And finally during late blight epidemics, wet ground and rainy weather cannot interfere with spraying. See Fig. 5. It should be remembered that late blight control is like weed control. If you can never see any you will never have any. If controlled before it gets started it will never start. One spray before late blight makes its appearance is worth four or five after it becomes visible.

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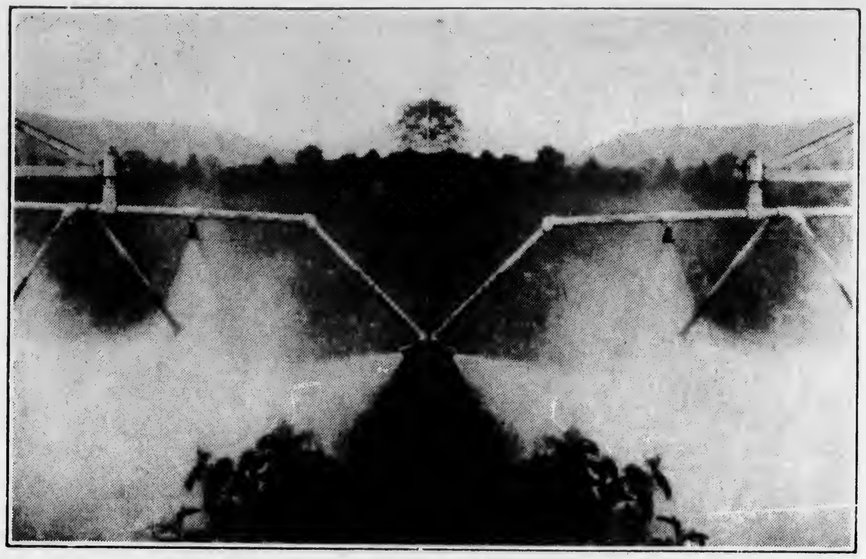


Fig. 3.—Proper nozzle construction and adjustment are essential for the most profitable returns.

The drifting spray material over the vines is no more effective than dust. The plants in the direct line of force are protected. The spray boom has been the biggest factor in the nation in standardizing row widths. For the best spray job the rows should be equal distance between them from one end of the field to the other. Here was a "wide" place in the row width. It served to demonstrate that no part of the plants out of the line of force is protected.



Fig. 4.—It has been found that the first application should be made as soon as the rows can be followed. Looking across the rows as in this illustration the rows are not visible. All of these men testified to the fact that the rows could be seen. Most of them have since learned that the first application should be made as soon as the rows can be followed. Some have not learned this yet. Sometimes it is an expensive lesson. It cost a lot of growers plenty last year, and still some will take a chance and begin when the plants are six to eight inches high.

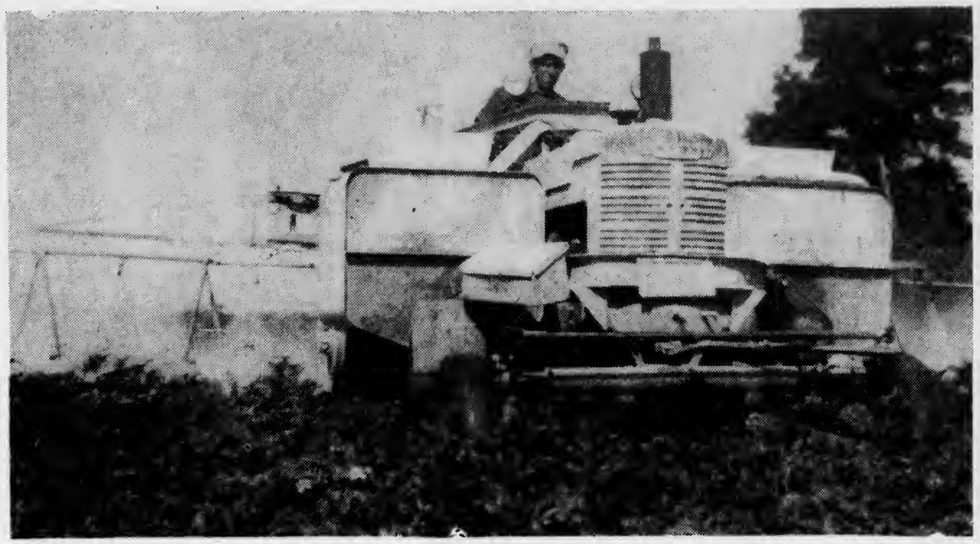


Fig. 5.—Provision and determination to spray during wet weather and when the vines are large must be made. Profits which accrue from spraying are just as great in dry hot years as they are in wet blight years. In either extreme precautions should be taken to see that spraying is done at not longer than weekly intervals.



Fig. 6.—An inexpensive convenient spray mixing plant should be provided. When every convenience is provided, and it ought to be done cheaply, potato spraying is one of the easiest jobs there is in connection with potato growing. At worst it is not in the category of manure hauling. At its best it is a job most young fellows like.

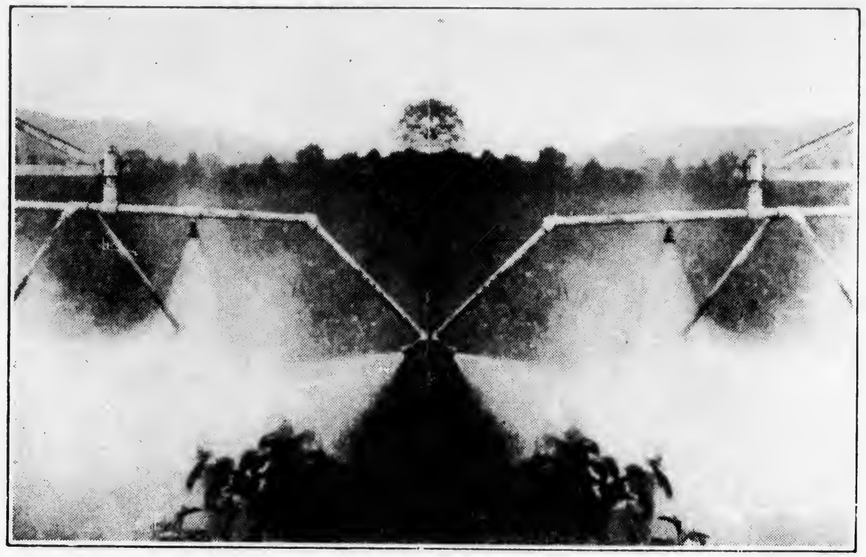


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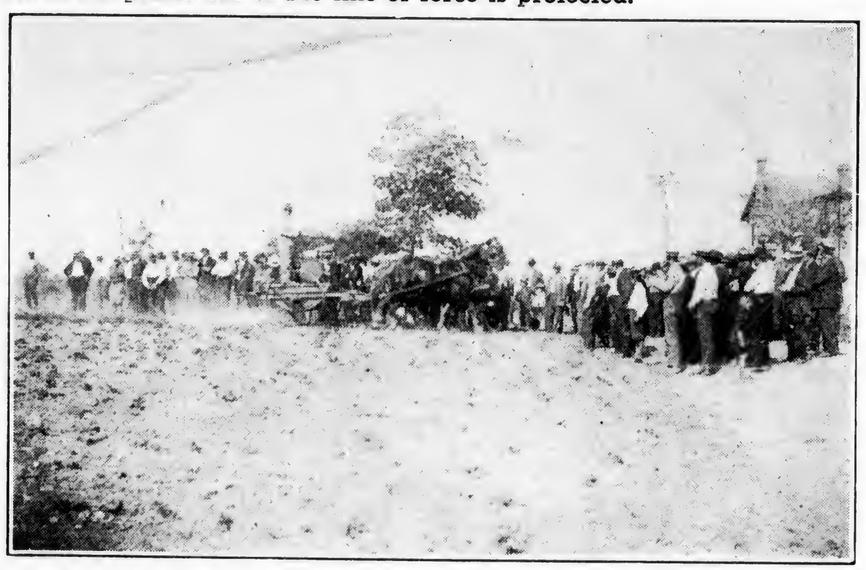


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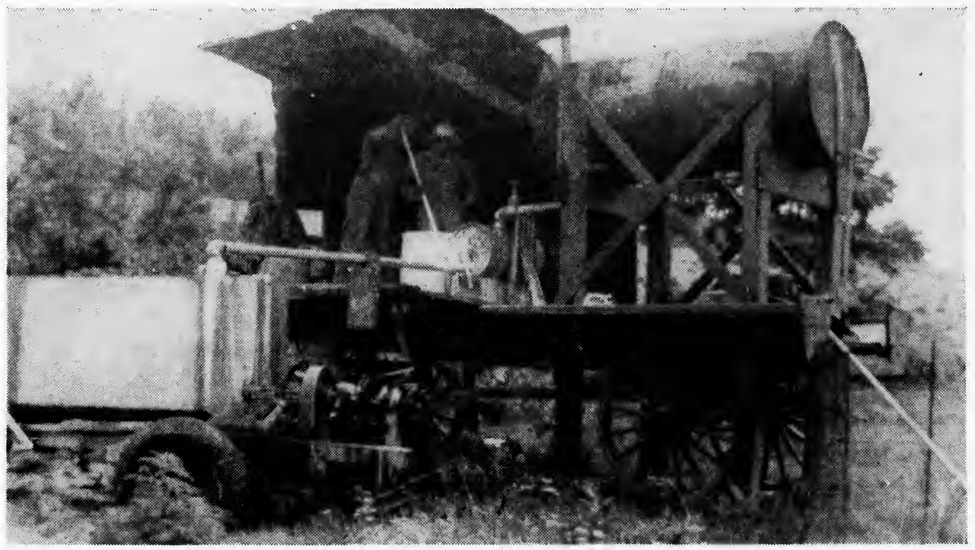


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INTENTIONAL SECOND EXPOSURE

Foresight as Well as *Hindsight* Important in PROPER CULTIVATION

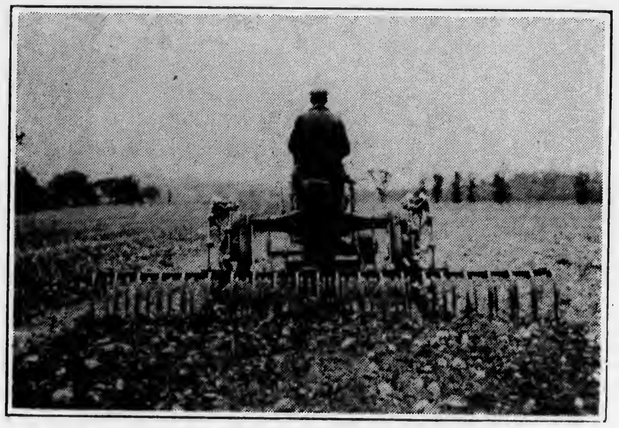


Fig. 7.—Deep planting, proper weeding and cultivating causes the development of a deep root system. A deep root system is valuable in seasons of draught. Further proper weeding trains the vines in one direction one over lapping the other thus serving as a shade which conserves moisture and lowers soil temperature where the tubers are developing.

Remember PROPER CULTIVATING supplementing PROPER WEEDING MAKES for the ART of potato growing. Ask yourself the question frequently, "Now what am I attempting to accomplish?" Control weeds? If you can see them its too late. Make a smooth hard surface? Don't keep it rough. Prune the roots? Never—adopt a SYSTEM of cultivating. Start deep and end up shallow.

Potato roots will grow shallow if the soil is not disturbed. They will not develop in the upper two or three inches of the soil if it is moved or disturbed at weekly intervals, and no injury will be done by such a systematic practice. The injury is done from tearing off the established root system, by going too deep or at too long intervals, between cultivations.

The purposes of cultivation or weeding are to control weeds, to keep the soil loose and rough, better to take up the rain and prevent run-off, to induce a deep root system, to create the ideal conditions for the set and development of normal tubers by reducing soil temperature through proper soil manipulation and training of vines to provide the greatest possible shading of the tubers at the critical stages of their development.

VISION...

The founders of the Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers Association didn't fore-see a global war with the resultant scarcity and high cost of burlap, cotton, hampers and other vegetable containers. They did have Vision on a program for the orderly and profitable marketing of the Pennsylvania potato crop. Included in that vision and based on experiments and sound experience was the wise decision to use paper bags exclusively. They knew that only the paper bag guaranteed the minimum in package and packaging costs and the maximum in protection, consumer appeal—and repeat sales.

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THE POTATO GROWERS' ANSWER TO BLACK MARKETS

A. L. HACKER, *Lehigh County Extension Agent*

Black markets thrive only when a scarcity exists in any commodity such as has developed in recent months. In the case of potatoes an unexpected situation developed when consumption increased to the point where supplies in the regular channels could not keep up with the demand. When point rationing of canned goods turned more housewives to potatoes, sales increased. A farmer overheard a woman saying to another as he was unloading potatoes at a store, "Well, we can at least always eat potatoes." Little did the grower or the woman realize the troubles that lay ahead.

Unfortunately, when ceiling prices were reached, the black market raised its ugly head. Unsuspecting growers listened to the oily promises of the buyer, who approached the grower with the question, "How much are you getting for potatoes?" The grower, believing that he was dealing with a reputable dealer, would say, "I can't charge more than the ceiling price." The buyer would then say "You are not getting enough."

What a change in the buyer and grower relationship. Every grower knows from many years of past experience, that the buyer always offered less than the asking price. The buyer invariably said "You are asking too much," and now he says "You are not asking enough."

Some growers thought that a Utopia had been reached when buyers were offering to pay more than the grower expected to receive. Is there any potato grower so gullible as to believe that these men were interested in the welfare of the farmer? No, they were interested in their own profits.

Let us look deeper into the aspects of black markets. For years farmers have attempted to improve their marketing by cooperative methods. They have made real progress along this line. Today we can point with pride and satisfaction to the marketing program of the Pennsylvania Potato Growers Association, the Cooperative Egg Auctions, live poultry auctions, livestock auctions and many other similar outlets which provided a more direct producer-to-consumer contact. These farm marketing programs will be put out of business and confusion will prevail, to the disadvantage of producers and consumer if proper precautions are not taken by the producer, with the assistance of the Government, to prevent this.

Already at this time farm outlets have been closed. The live poultry auction at Wooster, Ohio, closed up on April first after being in operation since 1934. The live poultry auction which serves farmers in the Lehigh Valley is similarly threatened because volume is dropping. This is most unfortunate.

The producers of poultry, potatoes and meat must cooperate with the Office of Price Administration in curbing the elements which destroy the legitimate markets, for in the *long run* the farmer will suffer most. *A temporary price advantage is not worth the risk.*

As was pointed out at the beginning of this article, a black market thrives in a time of scarcity. The challenge to the potato grower is to meet this situation in several ways.

First, sell only through regular channels at not more than maximum established prices.

Second, increase production in 1943 to meet the increased demand.

This increased demand comes from the Armed Forces for 20,000,000 bushels for dehydrating alone. Considerable quantities will also be canned. It will be better for the industry to produce liberally, than to make it necessary to put potatoes on the rationed list.

It is a challenge to the growers and all others associated with the industry to make every effort to produce to the maximum.

Encouraging news is coming out of Washington in the form of more liberal allowances for repair parts and new equipment. The rubber tire situation has been eased and every encourage-

(Continued on page fifteen)

SEED and FERTILIZER facts BOILED DOWN

Size of Seed Piece. I do not claim that the following results are the final answer as to the question of how small or how large the seed piece should be, or what distance they should be spaced. These results were secured by Dr. John Bushnell, of the Ohio Experiment Station, a few years ago, and I assure you, knowing Dr. Bushnell as I do, that he would not claim these results would hold true under all conditions. At a time when seed economy is important, these results might encourage us to do a better job of seed cutting, aiming at more uniform size, around 1-1½ oz. Bushnell's results compare favorably with Terry's findings back in 1890, when he claimed that seed that was in proper condition for planting (firm and unsprouted) could be cut finer, even to one eye to each piece. The following is quoted from Bushnell's test:

"Spacing the hills 9 or 12 inches in the row gave higher yields of marketable tubers than either wider or closer spacing."

"Two-ounce seed pieces gave higher yields at the same spacing, but the difference was *only* sufficient to compensate for the larger amount of seed required."

"Since seed pieces of a given size produce more sprouts when planted late than when planted early, spacing experiments were started in April and repeated about six weeks later. Close spacing in the row, that is, 9 inches or less, was more advantageous in early than in late plantings.

"Measurements of plants from various size pieces showed that ounce pieces produced larger plants than half ounce or ¾ ounce pieces. The plants from 2-oz. pieces were slightly larger than those from ounce pieces, but when the measurements were restricted to the largest single plant from each piece the difference was not significant. The greater distinction between 1-ounce and 2-ounce pieces was in the greater number of plants from the larger piece. The number of plants, however, was not directly proportional to the weight of the piece, so that more plants were obtained from a given quantity of seed tubers by cutting them into ounce pieces than into 2-ounce pieces."

Guide for Fertilizer Application for Potatoes. The following table should be of assistance to potato growers in adjusting their planters to the desired rate of fertilizer application. Change of rate of application is necessitated by the grower planting different fields of varying fertility, by planting different varieties (early varieties generally receive heavier applications), and by applying different analysis or different strength fertilizers.

The accompanying table is based on 32-inch rows, and starting with 200 lbs. of any strength fertilizer in the planting hopper. This amount can be quickly arrived at by using two 100-lb. bags.

Table showing the number of rows of varying lengths that 200 lbs. of fertilizer will plant at different rates of application.

Rate of Application Per Acre

Length of row	300 lb.	400-lb.	500-lb.	600 lb.	700 lb.	800 lb.	900-lb.	1000 lb.
400 ft.	27.2	20.4	16.1	13.6	11.6	10.2	9.0	8.1
500 "	21.8	16.3	13.0	10.9	9.3	8.1	7.2	6.5
600 "	18.0	13.6	10.8	9.0	7.7	6.8	6.0	5.4
700 "	15.4	11.6	9.3	7.7	6.6	5.8	5.1	4.6
800 "	12.8	10.2	8.1	6.4	5.8	5.1	4.2	4.0
900 "	12.0	9.0	7.2	6.0	5.1	4.5	4.0	3.6
1000 "	10.8	8.1	6.5	5.4	4.6	4.0	3.6	3.2
1200 "	9.0	6.8	5.4	4.5	3.8	3.4	3.0	2.7
1500 "	7.2	4.4	4.3	3.6	3.1	2.7	2.4	2.1
2000 "	5.4	4.0	3.2	2.7	2.3	2.0	1.8	1.6

A few examples will show the simplicity of using the above table. Let us assume that your rows are 500 feet long and that you wish to apply 500 pounds per acre. Starting with the 500 in the length of row column and following out to 500 in the rate of application column you will find that the 200 pounds in the hopper will plant 13.0 rows. By the same process, if your rows are 900 ft. and the desired rate of application 800 pounds per acre you will find that the 200 pounds in the hopper will plant 4.5 rows. If in either of the above cases the 200 pounds did not plant the 13.0 or 4.5 rows, then the fertilizer gate of the planter should be closed a notch or two and rechecks made until the desired amount is being applied. If fertilizer is left in the hopper after planting the required number of rows, then the rate of application is not sufficient and the gates should be opened wider and rechecks made until the proper amount is being applied.

Do not forget that the above table is based on 32-inch rows and 200 pounds of fertilizer in the planter hopper.

If the distance of planting is 30 inches instead of 32 inches as used in the table you will have a greater number of rows per acre, therefore the 200 pounds will have to plant a greater distance which in actual figures will be in each instance one-sixteenth more rows than expressed in the figures in the above table. In like manner if you are planting 34-inch rows the number of rows the 200 will plant should be reduced by one-sixteenth.

Hershey Estates Tests Fertilizer. A few years ago our good friend B. A. Rockwell secured the following results on fertilizer applications at the Hershey Estates, Hershey, Pa.:

Ratio	1:2:2	1:3:3	1:4:4
Analysis	4-8-8	4-12-12	4-16-16
Yield per acre	270.9 bu.	400 bu.	312.5 bu.

Note: Rate of application—600 lbs. per acre—band method.

These results would show that wartime fertilizers will not be too far wrong, especially under conditions existing on the Hershey Farms.

BLACK MARKET THREATENS FARMERS

With such old-time gangsters as the Capone mob organizing a black beef market in Indiana and Illinois, and with similar bootlegging operations in other meats, potatoes, gasoline, oils, and coffee, too, rearing their ugly heads all over the country, cooperative leaders are warning farmers that dangers will pile up for them if they fall for the fancy prices offered by black marketeers.

Principal danger to farmers, cooperative leaders point out, lies in the fact that it takes two to make a bootlegger. Once a farmer has fallen for fancy bootleg prices he is automatically brought into open conflict with law and order. But worse yet, he has been laid wide open as a juicy prospect for blackmailers and extortionists, camp followers of bootlegging.

DOESN'T PAY

Agricultural leaders sense another great danger to producers—the threat to cooperative marketing. They know there must be volume if cooperative marketing is to succeed. Black markets divert food products, like meat, from constructive marketing channels and break down structures that support current price levels for producers. Temporarily, farm leaders point out, black markets may offer price advantages to farmers (consumers are paying as much as $1.75 a pound for beef in New York, U. S. Senator Aiken, Vermont, says) but once this underground system gets full control of a market, the results will be the opposite. Prices to farmers, but of course not to the bootleggers, will come tumbling down.

"THE CAMPAIGN" IS ON

EVERY MEMBER GET A NEW MEMBER

Now is the time for all Potato Growers to "Get Together" for their Common Good

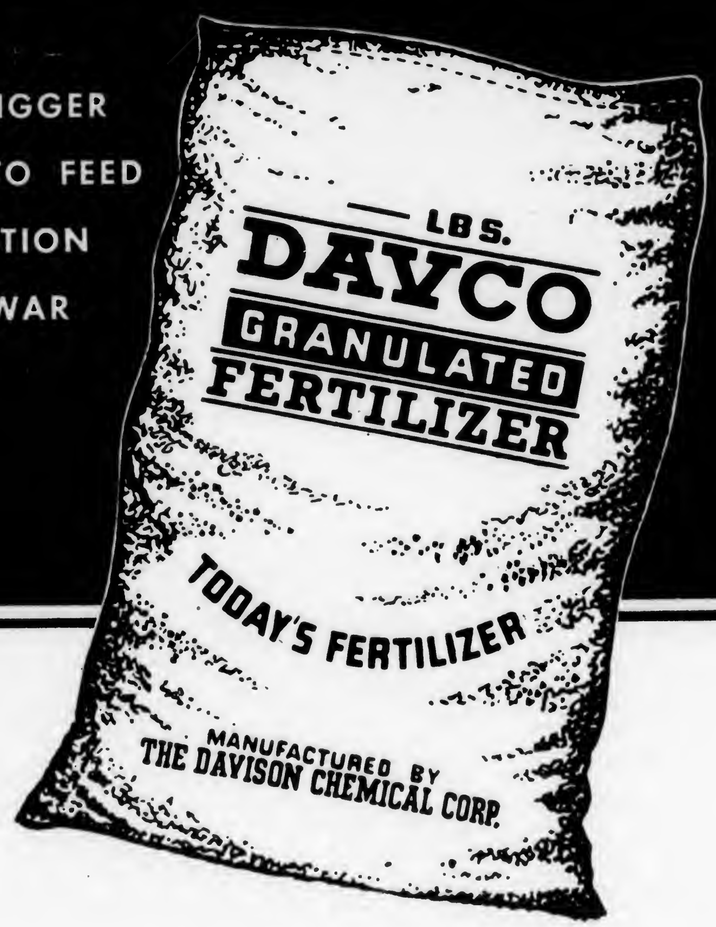
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(Continued from page eleven)

ment is being given to the grower, even to a price support program.

Finally, is it not a fact that growers are protected by fair ceilings on most of the necessary items which go into the cost of producing a crop. This is good, and by the same sign a fair ceiling on the crop he grows is also good. Unless we succeed in fighting the forces which cause inflation, we will be hampered in the larger fight against our enemies in the field of battle.

Editorial Note—Mr. Hacker speaks with practical wisdom, indeed. Black markets temporarily satisfy our financial problem but is decidedly ruinous to established channels of trade. Legitimate distributors cannot afford to run the risk of stepping into the ranks of bootleggers even for an instance. The unscrupulous buyer has always been an enemy to orderly marketing and would be glad to see the farmer's regular marketing channels disorganized and in trouble. He longs for the time when he can again gauge, threaten and browbeat producers at the latter's very door. He has much to gain and nothing to lose.

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ANTI-RACKETERING BILL TO SENATE

The Hobbs anti-racketeering labor bill, under which severe penalties are provided for threats, extortion, coercion, and similar practices by labor leaders or others, passed the House late last week by a two to one vote despite vigorous opposition from labor organizations. The bill, which has had the support of the produce trade very generally, now goes to the Senate for action. Contact your Senator and tell him how you feel about the high handed methods of so called "Unionites."

Potato Growers, fearful that OPA price ceiling restrictions will further curtail 1943 plantings already threatened by scarcity of farm labor, fertilizer, machinery, replacement parts and transportation, find some encouragement in the revival last week of the Administration's incentive payment plan, which was followed by the surprise Presidential stabilization order.

Congressional committees several weeks ago rejected Secretary Wickard's incentive payment plan which, it was stated, would cost taxpayers 125 million dollars this year.

"Growers are dazed and baffled by Washington's conflicting aims and intentions." "On the one hand, the Department of Agriculture urges increased plantings of essential crops to meet greatly increased war needs. On the other hand, OPA takes the position that prices must be held down, which, if present potato ceiling prices are a criterion, means price levels that instead of encouraging production will further discourage it.

"That the government is aware of the need for higher returns to growers if maximum acreage is to be obtained is evidenced by the incentive payment plan itself. It provides for payments of 50 dollars per acre on certain essential vegetables in excess of 90% of a grower's goal, up to 110%. Potato payments under this plan would be 50 cents a bushel on the normal production above 90% and not to exceed 110%."

"This plan, which is essentially a consumer subsidy parading as a farm subsidy, is intended to take the place of the modest price increases growers are asking as protection against the many hazards in growing and marketing perishable crops. Growers don't want or need subsidies in any form. All they want is reasonable assurance of market prices that will enable them to stay in business."

Recent testimony of Price Administrator Brown before a Congressional committee to the effect that the Bankhead and Pace bills, designed essentially to raise farm prices to meet higher labor costs and encourage production, would add 1½ billion dollars to living costs and thereby promote inflation contrasts oddly with a later statement by Secretary of Commerce Jones that the 43 billion dollars of excess consumer purchasing power must be drained off if inflation is to be avoided. Food Administrator Davis, a former member of the Federal Reserve Board, placed excess purchasing power at 35 billions.

"We do not agree with Mr. Brown's estimate of a 1½ billion dollar increase in living costs. Neither can we understand why the Administration, aware of the serious food supply shortage, holds modest farm increases inflationary, thereby further aggravating the prospects, when excess purchasing power brought about by high industry wages is the real danger."

"The latest indexes reported by Cornell University as of December 1942 show farm prices at 169, retail food prices at 178, cost of living at 169, and earnings of factory workers at 349."

That shortages of many vegetables will occur, is forecast by reports of farmers on March 1 planting intentions recently released by the Department of Agriculture, indicating that sweet potato acreage would fall 26% short of the 1943 goal, white potatoes, 3%, cabbage 12%, and onions 28%. Will consumers stand by complacently? It is their problem, for producers are not apt to feel the cost inconvenience and perhaps hunger pangs next winter. No potatoes on the city man's table is a calamity of the first order.



BLACK MARKET OPERATOR

Talk of black markets on potatoes and other vegetables in different parts of the country is rife. If any reader of The Packer has actual evidence of such, it should immediately be placed before government officials in Washington.

The "black market" operator has no place in America. Whoever he is, he is striking at the very heart of our country. He is an ally of Hitler and Hirohito, no matter how much he may try to "salve" his conscience by calling his practices "smart business."

Greed is the underlying motive of operators of this character. Greed of the despicable character that would take the last penny from the widow and children of a hero who died on Guadalcanal. May the long arm of the government reach such men—if such there are—and assess the penalty that their actions deserve.

And the buyer on the black market is equally guilty with the seller.

—"THE PACKER"

MARKETING METHODS HELP POTATO GROWER

The steady improvement in quality of Pennsylvania potatoes over the past few years has continued during the present marketing year, according to the Bureau of Markets of the Department of Agriculture. It is stated that never before were consumers able to purchase potatoes with the same degree of confidence of procuring high quality as is possible today. Bureau agents have reported fewer unbranded Pennsylvania potatoes sold in the principal markets and more well graded stock.

Much of the improvement is due to efforts of *potato growers* in improving marketing practices in the merchandising of their crops. *County and State cooperatives* have held grading schools in cooperation with the State College Extension Service, the Bureau of Markets and the Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers, to educate growers in all the principal producing areas of the State resulting in making the industry *grade-minded* which has brought the noteworthy improvement in properly marked potatoes. Pennsylvania potatoes now hold an *enviable reputation* which has placed the industry on a more substantial footing than it has enjoyed in the past.

SEED POTATO CERTIFICATION

COMMITTEE REPORT of the POTATO ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

In lieu of the regular report submitted to the Annual Meetings, the Committee submits the following report. Without going through the formality of a regular meeting, and with war conditions as a back drop, many suggestions are made with the prime motive of stressing food for war.

1. The Committee recommends that certification agencies use every means at their disposal to encourage the production of quality seed potatoes.

2. High standards and high quality, regardless of shortage of man power for inspection, should be maintained.

3. States in which Foundation Seed Programs are already established should maintain these programs. The states without such a program should introduce and subsidize it, if necessary.

4. If possible, special courses should be established in agricultural colleges, to train inspectors. Deferment from military services should be stressed.

5. Since research work on Ring Rot control is being curtailed, every effort should be made to complete the work already initiated. Information that has not been released, should be made available, particularly to the Seed Certification agencies.

6. Until it has been shown that slight infections do not cause trouble, the zero tolerance in Ring Rot should be continued.

7. Due to the disparity between certification standards in various states, a clearing house should be established to work for uniformity. This uniformity is especially desirable on the shipping grades.

8. The efforts to encourage good relations with South American countries should be continued in view of possible future markets. The U. S. Department of Agriculture is suggested as the agency to accomplish this.

9. In view of previous activity on the part of the International Crop Improvement Association, with regard to regulatory matters on seed certification, it is suggested that the Potato Association of America work out a joint committee to consider seed potato problems.

10. Research workers should spend more time with direct control measures, for increased crop production, in view of war time needs.

SPRAY and DUST

with

MILLARD MODERN LIMES

Rotary Kiln Products

Crop Protection - Service - Reasonable Cost

H. E. MILLARD

Phone 7-3231 **Annville, Pa.**

WHO'S YOUR ALLY?

H. C. STOCKDALE
Bean Manufacturing Co., Lansing, Michigan

Now that the 1942 potato season is over, it is time to do a little thinking. Not only has there been the worst epidemic of blight that most of us had ever seen, but many growers took quite a licking from this blight, the most dangerous enemy the potato grower has.

Not so long ago an Army officer who, with his troops had been chased out of a part of Asia, said "We took a licking; now we must stop and think why, and then we will go back." The potato grower is "going back" and grow potatoes, but he had better "stop and think" just why blight was so hard to handle.

These are war times, and we use war terms. We speak of our allies and and enemies' allies. Just what might we term as the blights' allies? What can we count on as our allies in fighting this enemy blight?

The enemy blight has as its allies cool, cloudy weather, and fog. These elements prevent our ally, the sun, "Ole King Sol," from helping us in fighting blight. We, in war terms, could speak of clouds and fog as smoke screens to prevent our good ally, the sun, from killing blight spores. Always keep in mind that this enemy blight likes cool weather and does most of its killing during low temperature. Did you notice the potato leaves during August when the temperature went to nearly the freezing point in some sections? The leaves partially died in a night's time and were white with blight mold.

An old Army officer once made this statement: "In order to lick the enemy it is most important to get there 'firstest with the mostest.'" This may not be good English, but it makes a lot of sense. In fighting blight, nothing is of more importance than getting there "firstest with the mostest," meaning early, heavy application of spray.

Some may say, "How did we know the enemy blight was coming? Growers this season has just as definite a warning that the blight was coming as was given by Paul Revere when he, on horseback, gave the warning, "The British are coming." During the past season, excessive rains were the warning given six weeks ahead of the arrival of blight.

An unusually heavy rainfall during a few days is the time to mark the calendar six weeks ahead as blight time. This is the date the enemy will arrive. Only the growers' allies, sunshine and hot weather, will stop this enemy from coming on this six weeks' schedule. The sun, "Ole Ging Sol," is the best friend and ally the potato growers have in blight seasons.

The idea I am trying to get across is if your ally, the good sunshine, helps you, your fight against blight will not be difficult. But if the blights' allies, cool weather, clouds, and fog, are in command, you have a real fight on your hands.

So to be safe, get there "firstest with the mostest": a good application of spray beginning before all the plants are through the ground. If you doubt this, talk to growers that actually did it. Rockview Penitentiary Farms, Centre County, Pa., is an excellent example.

A large number of potato growers during the past seasons have been quite successful with a regular set schedule of spraying. But this regular schedule is out when we have day after day of cool rains and our good ally, sunshine, is prevented by the clouds from helping us. It is a case of fight alone and fight hard by spraying every day or part of the day, weather permitting. Use more spray material per acre. Don't start to count how many applications you have put on in a week, but keep going. This is very necessary because the enemy blight may have its ally, rain, right back at your potato field five days out of the next week, making it impossible to spray. You must already have much more than the normal amount of spray on the plants to protect the leaves from the attacking blight until you and your sprayer, with the help of King Sol, can again get into action.

In conclusion, don't forget that a good application when plants are very small is most important of all. Get there "FIRSTEST WITH THE MOSTEST." Keep clearly in mind that sunshine is your ally and that low temperature, rain, and fog are decidedly the ally of the enemy—BLIGHT.

THE JUNIOR-GUIDE POST

Pennsylvania Junior Cooperative Potato Growers Assn.

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Annual Membership—$1.00 which includes 12 issues of The GUIDE POST.

Single Copies—25c.

All communications concerning the Junior Cooperative Potato Growers' Association should be addressed to either Secretary, Daniel W. Keener, Neffs, Penna., or C. F. H. Wuesthoff, Gen'l. Manager, 410 Campbell St., Williamsport, Penna.

1943 CAMP POTATO PLANS

Beginning April first, Camp Potato is in the hands of another caretaker, William Tuttle, and his capable spouse. Their quarters have been renovated with splendid results. Everything is all set for members and guests to enjoy. Ben Bailey of State College has been engaged to take charge of field and machine operations.

Due to inclement weather and general pressing business it has been impossible to classify, record and grade seedlings in storage. This, however, will be done in good time before the planting season. The plan is to plant sixty acres, the majority of which will be planted to the most promising seedlings such as the Poconos, Allegheny Mountains, and Nittanies. All machinery owned by the association, namely, plows, discs, 2 row planter, 2 Cletrac tractors, 10 row bean sprayer, cultivators and graders, are all ready for the production program. The acreage planned is 50% over last year's effort and will keep everybody busy.

Early in June Camp Potato will be officially opened with a general invitation to all growers to participate. There is some talk of holding a production and machinery school for interested young men under the direction and supervision of the association. Outstanding instructors will be available. A cooperative arrangement between Potter County School authorities and the association is being proposed. It looks as though the industry will profit materially in such an arrangement from the long time point of view.

POTATOES—A BOTTLE-NECK

Potatoes in the News—Potatoes on the Radio—Potatoes in the Black Market—Potatoes among the Racketeers—Potatoes in the Army—Potatoes in the Navy. Who would have believed that the once lowly "Spud" could become so important to our very existence? Reports of 70 to 90 cents per peck are common in eastern counties. Why? Why? National production of 370,000,000 was higher than 1941 and higher than recent five-year averages. Maine and Idaho had Bumper Crops. True, New York and Pennsylvania were hit by Blight. Nationally we had the potatoes last Fall. Where have they gone — What happened?

John Q. Public is asking this question—he has a right to know. This is the answer as I see it:

Lend-Lease took supplies for export.

The military forces, as such, consumed more than as civilians.

Civilians, having greater purchasing power, consumed more potatoes.

Seed demands, in order to increase production, were greater than ever.

Complicated O. P. A. Rules and Regulations confused and befuddled growers and shippers.

Refrigerator Car Shortages dislocated transportation schedules.

Believe it or not—Potatoes have become a Bottleneck in our war effort. Convoys were held up at eastern ports because there were NO POTATOES for hard-hitting crews whose masters refused to weigh anchor without them.

PENNSYLVANIA COOPERATIVE
POTATO GROWERS' ASSOCIATION, INC.
WILLIAMSPORT, PENNA.



©

Now for the "BIG JOB"

WHAT—"The Membership Campaign"

WHEN—Beginning AT ONCE — Contest CLOSES June 1st.

ELIGIBILITY—ALL JUNIOR and SENIOR growers interested in the advancement of the POTATO INDUSTRY. (Use enclosed prospect list of growers that your chapter submitted recently but do not confine yourselves to this list.)

COSTS—$1.00 buys a year's membership entitling purchaser to all rights and privileges of this organization which includes a free subscription to "THE GUIDE POST," the association's trade magazine.

AWARDS—A handsome CHAPTER PRIZE will be presented at conclusion of this campaign. Individual prizes of a free membership, including "THE GUIDE POST," to all submitting four (4) memberships will be authorized.

DETAILS—Few and simple—Start collecting DOLLARS **NOW**—Receipts in form of Membership Cards (purse size) will be issued from CENTRAL OFFICE. Reporting blanks will follow in a few days.

SPONSORS—The officers of the JUNIOR COOPERATIVE POTATO GROWERS ASSN.

The Editor:

The above is a copy of a circular sent to over 300 Chapters and Clubs cooperating in our concentrated Membership Campaign. Lets help the Junior Growers to meet their goal of 400 Junior and 400 Senior membership-subscriptions.

PENNSYLVANIA COOPERATIVE
POTATO GROWERS' ASSOCIATION, INC.
410 Campbell St., Williamsport, Pa.



A TRUE COOPERATIVE—
FARMER OWNED AND FARMER CONTROLLED

PURPOSE

(Bi-Laws Article 111 Sect. 2)

The *bringing together* for *mutual cooperative* effort and services all agencies engaged or interested in the *production, transportation, marketing* and *utilization* of potatoes and the *general promotion* and *advancement* of the *potato industry* in all its phases.

ASSETS

Owns, controls and publishes our trade magazine "The Guide Post"
Experiences friendly cooperation of "Distributor and Consumers"
Owns and manages the Potato Growers' Mecca, "Camp Potato"
Owns and controls a trade-marked package, "The Blue Label"
Enjoys an enviable reputation, "State and Nation Wide"

ACTIVITIES

Publicizes the Pennsylvania Potato Industry
Grades, packs and markets *millions* of Consumer Potato Packages
Speaks out *fearlessly* for its members and the Potato Industry
Cooperates definitely with all agencies *benefiting* agriculture
Lifts and stabalizes prices through a *systematic* price structure
Keeps membership *informed* of regulations and developments
Sponsors "The 400-Bushel Club"—*nationally* recognized
Conducts "Camp Potato" for *young* and *old*
Sponsors a most promising Junior Growers Association
Demonstrates *practical* production methods
Supervises and licenses its *own* Grade Inspectors

The Editor:

The above information was sent out the week of April 12th to 300 cooperating Chapters and Clubs to assist in informing potato growers of the advantages of this cooperative association. Once a Member you are entitled to all rights, privileges and the support of this state wide association. *Every member* is urged to *secure* at least *one new* member before our formal Campaign closes June 1st. Every potato growing section should be well represented. A large united membership is most influential when conferring with any agency. *There's Magic In Numbers.*

MORE EQUIPMENT—MORE FOOD

The urgent need for a greatly increased rather than a decreased supply of farm equipment, to relieve in part the serious shortage of farm labor, has in recent months become one of the major topics discussed by radio commentators, columnists and members of Congress.

Little improvement was noted until the Truman Investigating Committee, in its report of January 21, severely censored the "higher ups" for the delays and confusion incident to Limitation Order L-170, and especially for attempts to "concentrate" the production of an industry like farm equipment, composed of such a wide variety of products.

This report emphasized the fact that the recommendations of the USDA and the Farm Equipment Division of WPB were utterly disregarded by the Office of Civilian Supply, which arbitrarily established the quota of approximately 23 per cent of 1940 production and then stymied the industry by compelling it to follow the confusing "concentration plan," on which the present rationing program has been superimposed.

No one questions the advantages of price ceilings on new equipment and repairs; no one questions the rationing of implements at the retail level; but, most of the confusion has been due to the delays in deciding Who could make What, and When it could be shipped Where.

Now that the use of horse-sense is in the ascendant perhaps some of the mistakes and delays will be obviated in the new order for 1943-44. The USDA has again gathered facts as to the farmers' actual needs. It is to be hoped that they will not again be flagrantly disregarded.

Recent orders have allotted more materials so that factories may be able to complete partially built implements for Summer and Fall requirements. Some quotas have been increased, but still far below the urgent needs of farmers facing the serious shortage in farm labor.

Yes, the outlook for much-needed farm equipment is brighter, because evidently it has at last dawned on "the powers that be" that Food IS a War Essential; that "there can be no Victory without Food, and there can be no Food without Farm Equipment."

The present situation offers members of Future Farmer Chapters and 4-H Clubs a real opportunity to "do their stuff." These young farm-trained boys (and girls) with a reasonable amount of efficient labor-saving equipment can contribute more to the nation's food program than many times their number of workers "transplanted" from cities, towns and poor-crop areas.

These young farm people are mechanically minded. They know how to run tractors, operate combines, milking machines and other modern equipment. The young people on the Farm Front will do their bit just as efficiently and just as patriotically as their brothers on the War Front—IF they are given the same consideration in the matter of equipment.

SUBSIDIES

So-called "farm subsidies" are not farm subsidies at all. They are consumer subsidies, and all they do is conceal an increasing tax load by seeming to keep retail prices from reaching their natural levels. Everytime a farmer accepts a subsidy, he makes himself more and more dependent on a centralized government. Every time he makes himself more dependent upon government, he makes himself more subservient to government, as represented by a host of high-salaried bureaucrats more intent upon corralling enough votes to keep themselves in office than upon the welfare of the farmers or the public.

There is no virtue but much public peril in the concealment of price increases through government payments which have been wrested in the form of taxes from the supposed beneficiaries. Better higher prices that all can understand than subsidies which are a mere mask for inflation.—"THE RIGHT OF WAY."

Send in your

POTATO PROJECT PLAN

it might
Win the $10.00 Award

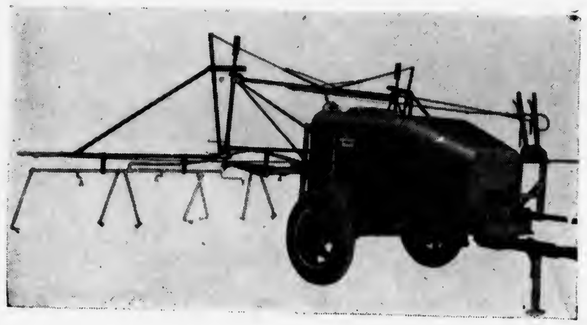
Contest closes May 15, 1943

Now...BEAN RUGGEDNESS MEANS EVERYTHING

Your job is to produce the MOST and the BEST you can. Our job is to keep your BEAN rolling at top efficiency. A BEAN Sprayer needs very little repair attention. But when it does, you'll find Authorized BEAN Service and Parts in every growing area.

We're allowed to supply new outfits, too, where they are vitally needed. While we're busy at top production of war equipment for Uncle Sam, we're continuing to build some sprayers where they do not interfere with war work. And we're building them with all the ruggedness and dependability that have kept the BEAN in front through the years. . . . including the matchless ALL-Enclosed BEAN Royal Pump.

So . . . keep your BEAN rolling if you're already an owner. Get a new one if you must have new, larger, or more equipment for full Victory Production. Call on us or any of our dealers anywhere for service and help. And remember, a BEAN is a sound investment, not just for the emergency, but for years to come.



FOOD MACHINERY CORPORATION

John Bean Mfg. Co., Division

Lansing, Michigan

THE PENNSYLVANIA COOPERATIVE POTATO GROWERS' PRICE STRUCTURE AND THE POTATO INDUSTRY

P. DANIEL FRANTZ, *Manager*, Allentown Branch

The potato industry of the state of Pennsylvania is scattered throughout the entire state. However, the highest producing counties are mostly located in the eastern half. The potato growers of Pennsylvania are more ideally located than any potato grower of the United States. They are located among the markets such as no other potato farmer is located, that is, within the radius of 200 miles from his home he is in touch with one-fourth the population of the whole United States. These are the consumers.

These potatoes move to market in consumer packages of the Association's 15 and 50 lb. paper bags and 100 lb. burlap sacks. We have conducted schools for the past eight years training farmers of our state to grade and pack our product acceptable to the most exacting consumers. According to the records, we were highly successful.

We point with pride to our Blue Label packs—toward which we have been striving for many years. Distribution recognizes this fact and is giving splendid cooperation. Packing in paper entails extra expenses such as: paper bags, cost of labor, potatoes in balancing on scales, and extra handling. These all have to be taken care of in price structure so the grower will be paid amply for these extras incurred.

We must recognize the fact that if potatoes are moving to market on too high a figure, they may not move fast enough out of distribution centers. On the other hand, if the price on potatoes is too low we will have difficulty in having enough packed, because they will be diverted into other channels of trade at a higher price than paper and the packers cannot afford to pack in paper bags. Consequently the association serves as a pivot to adjust these prices up or down as the occasion may arise.

Price structure on our Blue Label pecks —we have to take into consideration the market conditions in all directions. We have to get in touch and be in continuous contact with the market and the growers problem back on the farms in order to adjust prices that may be acceptable to both the growers and the distributors.

It is necessary that we be in continuous contact with the market conditions both near and far, and know the condition, the movement and the supply of our biggest competitors. One of the most important things to consider is the one factor not to betray any of our contacts and lose the confidence of our most highly trusted connections. Therefore, I may say that we will always keep the grower and packers interest uppermost in mind and at the same time be fair to our connections in distribution centers.

The potato growers of the Association should be more cooperative. We have instances where potato growers had promised to pack thousands of pecks and our offices made contact, sold them and confirmed delivery. When the time came for the delivery the growers refused to make delivery of the shipments. This is one of the worst things that can happen in any business, a confirmation is made to a distributor and no delivery. One of the business principles of our association is that once confirmed it means delivery. We take a packer at his word to have his potatoes packed and delivered on time. This has occurred time and again when our association has worked in good faith. I feel that our growers and the association should have a better understanding about these seeming little details that cause so much dissatisfaction and confusion.

Occasionally we find that instead of a grower being cooperative the association is used as a makeshift in order to dispose of some undesirable lot of potatoes. This practice fails to build consumer confidence in our Blue Label packs. Our association can and should lay down a strict rule—anybody found guilty of doing this kind of packing should not be released any more paper bags.

Cooperatively Speaking

BIG THINGS are BREWING

Watch for announcements of Historic Proportions demonstrating
COOPERATION IN FACT

HUSTONTOWN—FULTON COUNTY
HEGINS VALLEY—SCHUYLKILL COUNTY
ENUNAUS—LEHIGH COUNTY
WILLIAMSPORT—LYCOMING COUNTY

Messrs Gerhart, Reisner, Eshelman, Handwerk and Noges are setting BIG COOPERATIVE STAGES

Protecting America's "Food for Victory"

LETHANE 60. Used by your dust mixer to fortify botanical dusts. Replaces part of the rotenone or pyrethrum, stretches this country's supply of these imported botanicals, holds down cost. Yet you get a better, faster-killing dust. Look for the LETHANE 60 emblem on the tag when you buy rotenone or pyrethrum dust.

***Yellow* CUPROCIDE Spray.** Contains over 80% copper; only 1½ lbs. make 100 gals. spray at a cost comparable to Bordo. Gives you excellent blight control with no lime burn, no messy mixing. Can be used with rotenone or pyrethrum. *Yellow* CUPROCIDE is non-corrosive, saves on machinery repairs, lessens clogging of nozzles.

CUPROCIDE Dust. Made by your dust mixer with *Yellow* CUPROCIDE. Doesn't require moisture—dust day or night. Contains no lime to burn your skin or reduce crop yield. The billions of copper particles in each pound of dust stick tight and protect your crop from blight. To get CUPROCIDE Dust, look for this emblem on the tag:

LETHANE *and* CUPROCIDE *are trade-marks, Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.*

THIS DUST CONTAINS LETHANE 60 AN INSECTICIDE CONCENTRATE MADE BY ROHM & HAAS COMPANY

THIS DUST CONTAINS CUPROCIDE A FUNGICIDE MADE BY ROHM & HAAS COMPANY

ROHM & HASS COMPANY

WASHINGTON SQUARE, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

Manufacturers of LETHANE 60 and CUPROCIDE

POTATO SHORTAGE:

Blamed on several Factors including Ceiling Prices.

(Philadelphia Evening Bulletin)

Five reasons stand out for the current shortage of potatoes. They are:

1. Purchases for the armed services.
2. Ceiling prices.
3. Need for more seed for increased planting.
4. Greater civilian consumption.
5. Rationing of canned goods.

That is the consensus among those most familiar with the potato situation in the State, and is confirmed by leaders in the vegetable industry throughout the country.

Philadelphia is not the only city suffering from the shortage. "All of the markets are bare," one leading Philadelphia potato broker said today. I even had a call from Jacksonville, Fla., wondering whether a buyer there could get any potatoes here."

Ceiling Prices Blamed

This broker blamed ceiling prices for much of the trouble. If prices had been allowed to rise as they did in the last war, he said, housewives would have turned to substitutes. The decline in demand would then have made supplies ample and prices would have come down in the course of a week or two. Instead, panic buying began six weeks ago and imposition of ceiling prices prevented operation of the law of supply and demand.

Overseas Shipment

Recently Pennsylvania Potato Growers Association received an urgent appeal from the Army Quartermaster Corps to supply tubers for hurried shipment overseas. The ships were waiting. The growers rounded up 379 bags or 19 tons and delivered them quickly to Philadelphia docks.

That shipment was the "last gasp" of Pennsylvania potatoes until after the planting season. The remainder of the crop is being held for seed.

Loyal D. Odhner, of the Pennsylvania Chain Store Council, said that for some time civilians and the armed services had been consuming potatoes faster than they were grown.

Weather conditions make it impossible to ship potatoes in their natural state to armed services in the tropics and purchases for dehydrating have consequently been heavy. They amounted last year, Odhner said, to the equivalent of the entire Pennsylvania crop in spite of the fact that the State ranks fourth in the country in production. He doubted that the condition could show much improvement before the early new crop reaches the local markets in another six weeks.

Fred Davis, of the Philadelphia Food Distributors Association, attributed some of the difficulty to the fact that buyers for large organizations make their purchases in the field, with the result that few potatoes reach the auction markets where many independents obtain their stocks.

The ceiling price here, he said, is too low to permit a profit when the ceiling price has been paid in the field and the freight paid. Rationing of other foodstuffs, Davis said, had increased the demand for potatoes.

The Bureau of Markets here reported that auctioneers were forced to prorate their offerings after ceiling prices had been reached.

BUSY - BUSY - MAY:
THE MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN
and
THE POTATO PROJECT PLAN

Getting the Most From Your Potash

To get the greatest returns from fertilizer and labor, proper application of the fertilizer is necessary. Experimental work has shown that best results are obtained when potash and other plant foods are applied in bands to the side of the row and not directly underneath or in contact with the seed. Low-priced machines, attachments for planters, or home-made distributors which properly place the fertilizer are great labor-savers and insure the most profitable return from the amount applied.

Owing to the growing importance of potash in potato production and the large applications made by successful growers, there is no crop on which these findings are of greater significance. A good stand of potatoes should have at least 200 lbs. of potash (K_2O) available for its use. If you do not know how much your soil will provide, your county agent or experiment station will make soil tests for you.

Write us for additional information and free literature on how to fertilize your crops.

More Potash means More Profit

American Potash Institute

INCORPORATED

1155 16th ST., N. W. WASHINGTON, D. C.

SPECIAL NOTICE to Maine Potato Growers

Effective April 15, 1943

The War Food Administration announced today a program for controlling shipment of remaining stocks of Maine potatoes. The program is designed to enable Government Procurement Agencies to obtain urgently needed supplies and help provide growers with sufficient seed to meet increased 1943 goals.

Authority for the action is contained in Food Distribution Order 49 effective in Maine immediately. Under the order each shipper will be required to obtain a permit before making any truck or rail shipments. Permits will be available through the Presque Isle office of the Food Distribution Administration.

A permit to ship may be issued provided:

1. An applicant offers to sell to a Government Agency 100% of potatoes included in the application.

2. Such offer to sell at a price no higher than the maximum ceiling price specified for the respective area, for table stock potatoes, by the Office of Price Administration.

3. Potatoes thus offered for sale to a Government Agency to be in sacks, crates, or other container satisfactory to the Government Agency.

4. The potatoes offered for sale satisfactory to the Director.

Certified seed potatoes tagged with the official certification tag, NOT to be bought by a Government Agency, but *will need a permit* before they can be shipped under Food Distribution Order No. 49; obtainable at the Regional Office at Presque Isle, Maine.

Government Agencies eligible to purchase the remainder of the 1942 Maine potato crop are the Food Distribution Administration and the United States Army. The order provides exceptions for shipment of certified seed potatoes and selected seed on permits to be issued by the Director of the Food Distribution Administration.

Supplies of potatoes now in Maine are estimated at between 5,000 and 7,000 cars, or approximately one-third of the Nation's present supply of old crop potatoes available for shipment. Supplies also are available primarily in the North Central States, with small quantities remaining in Colorado, Idaho and Oregon.

While the anticipated supply of new crop potatoes is somewhat greater than normal, old crop supplies have been reduced faster than usual as a result of increased demand.

A tight supply situation on potatoes is expected to continue through May, temporarily necessitating smaller consumption by civilians.

TRACTOR STEEL WHEELS CONVERTED TO RUBBER TIRES

April 15, 1943

A plan designed to assist farmers in wheels on tractors to rubber tires has been agreed upon and announced today by three government agencies — the Department and the OPA Office of Rubber Director. The program provides rubber tires and tubes for converting approximately 20,000 tractors and implements, originally equipped with steel wheels, which have been sold to farmers since May 1, 1942. Local OPA War Price and Rationing Boards will authorize such conversions on the basis of certification of individual farmer's applications by USDA County War Boards. This Action is being taken to help farmers increase the efficiency of their operations at a time when maximum results must be obtained from their equipment. Standards which the County War Boards will use in issuing certificates are: (1) That it is necessary for the tractor to be moved over the road from farm to farm for its most efficient utilization in the war effort, and (2) That the soil type or topography on which the tractor or implement is to be used is such that any tractor on steel wheels purchased between May 1, 1942 and July 1, 1943, is seriously handicapped by not being on rubber tires. Many new tractors are now being used for custom work, and must be moved from farm to farm. The conversion program will not require the manufacture of new tires.

EQUIPMENT

(By Edgar A. Guest)

Figure it out for yourself, my lad,
You've all that the greatest of men have had,
Two arms, two hands, two legs, two eyes,
And a brain to use if you should be wise,
With this equipment they all began
To start for the top and say, "I can."

Look them over, the wise and great,
They take their food from a common plate,
And similar knives and forks they use,
With similar laces they tie their shoes,
The world considers them brave and smart,
But you've all they had when they made their start.

You can triumph and come to skill,
You can be great if you only will,
You're well equipped for what you choose,
You have legs and arms and a brain to use,
The man who has risen great deeds to do
Began his life with no more than you.

You are the handicap you must face,
You are the one who must choose your place,
You must say where you want to go,
How much you will study the truth to know,
God has equipped you for life, but HE
lets YOU decide what you want to be.

Courage must come from the soul within,
The man must furnish the will to win,
So figure it out for yourself, my lad,
You were born with all that others have had,
With your equipment they all began,
Get hold of yourself and say, "I can."



for BIGGER PROFITS on Potatoes

EUREKA POTATO MACHINES lower the cost per acre in potato growing. Save time. Save labor. Increase yields. Make more money for you and free you from the hardest work. They're modern, improved, dependable machines, built right to fit each job, and used by successful potato growers for over a quarter century.

Potato Cutter Cuts uniform seed. Operates with both hands free for feeding.

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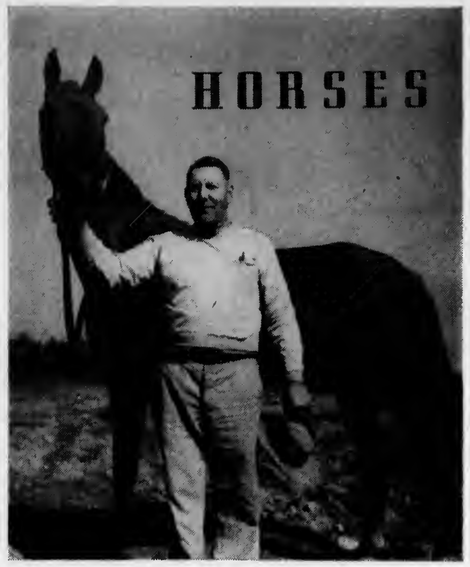
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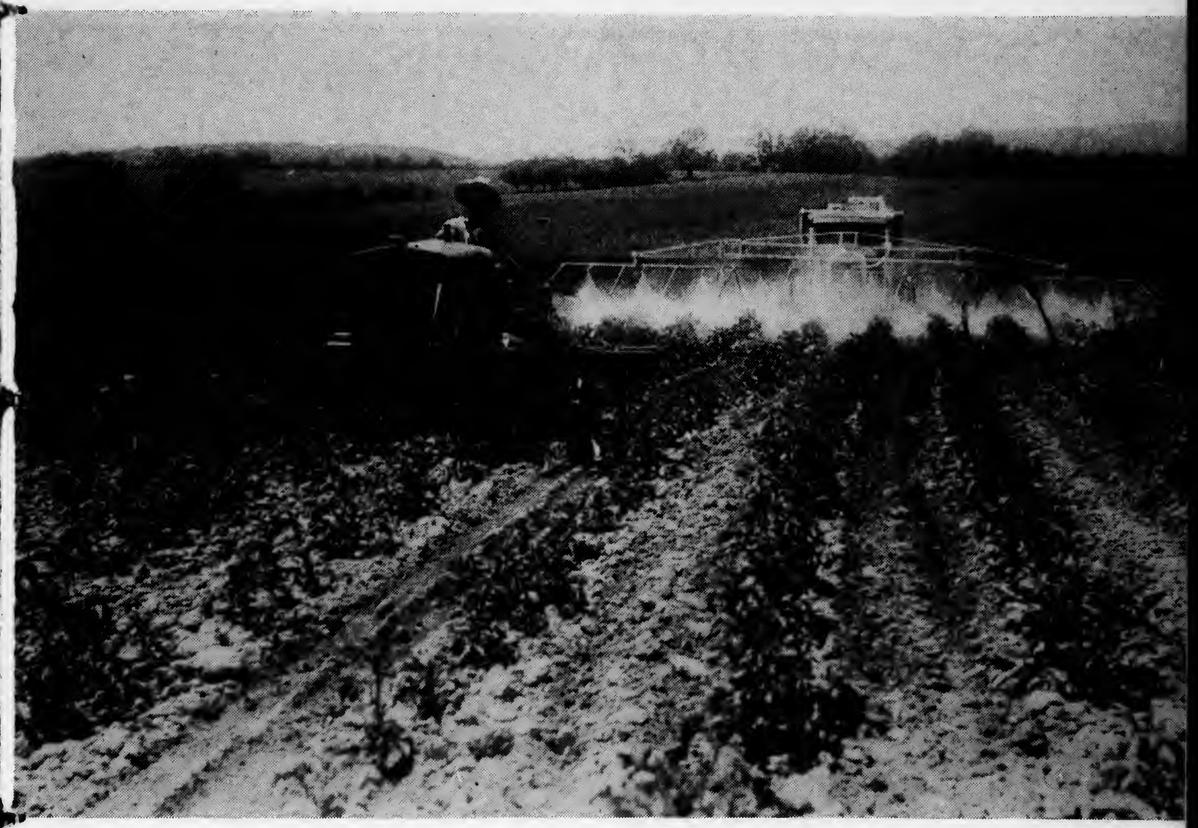
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VISION OF PENNSYLVANIA GROWERS

VOLUME XX NUMBER 5

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A DOUBLE-BARRELED—CULTURAL LESSON

MAY — 1943

Published by the

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THE GUIDE POST

published by

The Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers Association, Inc. Williamsport

Volume XX **May, 1943** **Number 5**

A PROSPEROUS POTATO INDUSTRY

Conclusions after 25 years of Experimentation, Demonstration and Observation

DR. E. L. NIXON

A program leading to a profitable potato industry involves the consideration of culinary quality concerned with—(1) structural features involving—

a. Shape
b. Size
c. Color
d. External blemishes
e. Internal texture
f. Discoloration

Shape

Most potato growers are aware of the fact that the potato is a short and much-thickened underground stem, which is botanically known as a "tuber." The potato growers are perhaps not so familiar with other types of underground stems, botanically called "rootstocks." Familiar examples of these are found on such plants as bloodroot, and many grasses like quack grass and ferns. Anyone who has been to Camp Potato appreciates the rootstocks that are found in the newly plowed soil where the ferns are abundant. Other underground stems are frequently known as bulbs as illustrated by the bulb of the hyacinth or the common onion. The real nature of these underground stems, known as tubers, rootstocks and bulbs, is shown by the presence of their many scales which are really reduced leaves. The "eyes" of the potato are rudimentary leaves and buds. It is a singular fact that the potato grows as it does—quite regular and symmetrical. If the underground stems of quack grass would just round themselves up into tubers they might be declared a boon to mankind instead of a curse; or if the tubers would stretch themselves out into thread-like underground stems, like quack grass, the potato plant would be known only to botanists.

One of the aims of the potato grower is to produce the tubers as symmetrical or regular shaped as possible. A tuber is influenced to a considerable extent in its shape by its environment—that is, in what kind of soil it grows. It is a well known fact that a potato tuber growing between two flat rocks or up against a solid stone will conform somewhat to its resistance. If the soil is of such a nature that the pressure surrounding the developing tuber is uniform, the tuber will take on the shape typical of the variety. Many varieties, of course, are influenced by temperature and drought conditions, resulting in the well-known "dumb-bell" type which is aggravated of course by shallow planting and improper culture practices. There are some varieties of potatoes which inherently grow irregularly or prongy. These naturally are not common or well known by commercial growers for the reason that they are commercially unprofitable. However, in an extensive breeding program in which a large number of new varieties are developed, many such forms show up with almost every one of the eyes protruding in an attempt to make a tuber of its own.

There are really three types or forms of potatoes which are well known to the trade—all striving for popularity. The first type is the spherical or round form, typified by the Cobbler, the Bliss



Fig. I.—THE POCONO—Known for "Attractiveness" as well as heavy production

Triumph and later the Nittany, Katahdin and the Sebago. The second type is the disc or flattened form and typified by the great so-called Rural Family, the well-known Russet and later the Pocono Fig. I and Chippewa. The third type is the oblong or elongate form, typified in the extreme by the Idaho Russet or Netted Gem, the old American Giant now called the California White Rose, the Green Mountain, the Early Rose and a newer development—the Allegheny Mountain. Fig. II.

All of these forms will have their advocates or champions. Perhaps the restaurant trade who use mechanical peelers may strongly demand the spherical or round type. However, anyone who has watched the potato peeler in operation will probably be convinced that the elongate forms lend themselves as readily to peeling mechanically and with less wastage than the round forms. Probably the tuber that lends itself least to mechanically peeling is the disc or flatened form as represented by the Rural. We used to think that potatoes to be early had to be round and have deep eyes, like the Cobbler and the Bliss. What both the growers and consumers have been looking for is an early potato that is shallow eyed—whether it is round or elongated. The Chippewa is a step in this direction, though it has not gained popularity with the producer. The reason the Cobbler retains its popularity with the producer is due to its heat tolerance. The reason that the Cobbler has retained its popularity with the consumer, in spite of its deep stem end and deep eyes, is because it has some very redeeming cooking qualities. The reason the Bliss has never become popular outside of winter growing with the producer is due to its extreme susceptibility of its foliage to heat. No one who knows culinary quality can deny that the Bliss Triumph does not possess real

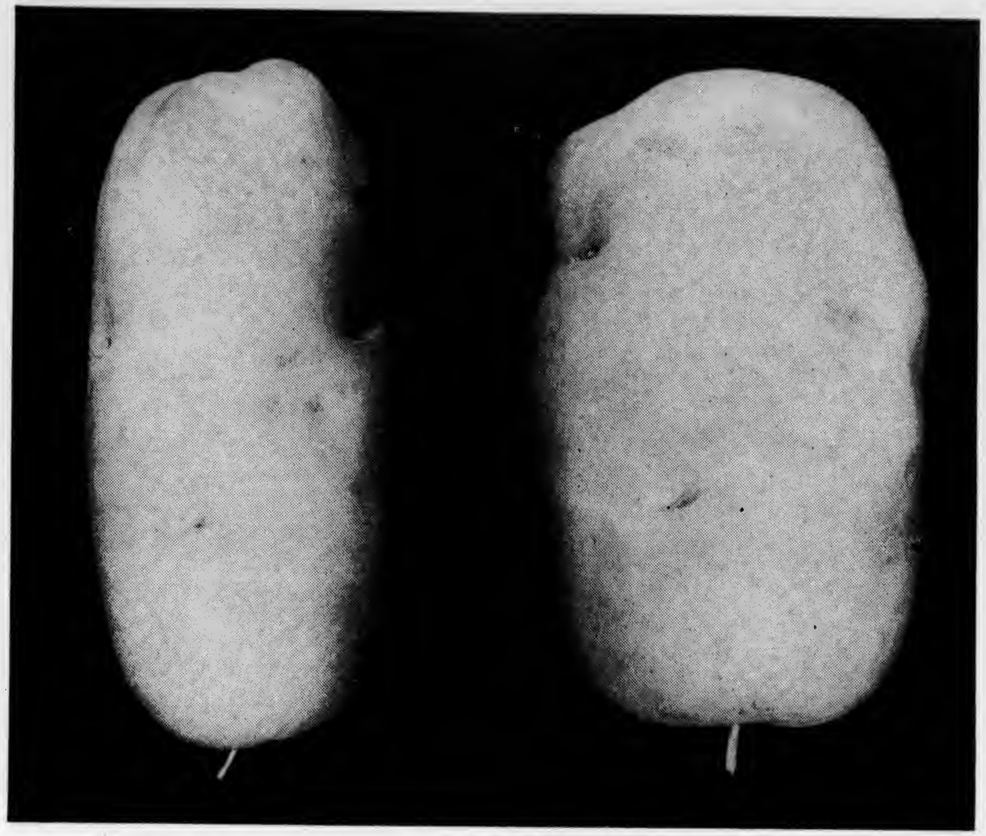


Fig. II.—THE ALLEGHENY MOUNTAIN—It has "Eye Appeal"

table quality. It has become, however, a winter variety with the housewife and is probably on the way out due to its color and deep eyes.

Unless the potato breeder comes along in a hurry with something outstanding in the oval and flatened form, as typified by the Rural, it looks like this type of potato will ultimately disappear from our markets. No one can deny that the Rural-type tuber is not beautiful to the eye. See Fig. I. Over the past twenty-five years the Rural potato was more widely grown and more total bushels were produced than any other—if not all other varieties combined. The Rural potato was peculiarly adapted to the uplands or eastern mountain regions and extended on across the northern part of the United States, where cooler temperatures prevailed. Taking it out of these areas it never did well and it was perhaps the introduction of the Rural into regions where it was not adapted that gave it a black eye in the markets. In the hotter soils it habitually went off type, producing the "dumb-bell" or knobby potatoes with black stems and cooking black. The Rural too, was a potash-loving variety which it did not get, and more evidence piles up that the cooking black weakness can be overcome by feeding it more potash. However, this will not overcome its tendency to go off shape under extreme high temperature soil conditions. A peculiai characteristic which the housewife discovered that the Rural possessed, was its tendency to cut tough in peeling like a wilted vegetable. The housewife today is looking for a potato that snaps before her knife like a ripe watermelon. This she interprets as being a fresh, tender vegetable. This proclivity was found in the Cobblers, the Triumphs and the Green Mountain, and the newer varieties, such as the Allegheny, Katahdin and the Sebago. This tough cutting or

paring coupled with the off type or irregular shape and its rusty skin as supplied by the Russet, taught her to condemn this otherwise very high quality potato. For, in the skillet the Rural potato will out-bake, out-mash, out-chip, out-fry (it will boil off due to its tenderness) any other variety of potato. The only hope we have for the Rural is to confine it to the high altitude, grow it, grade it and pack it well and it can take its place along with any other varieties, with not nearly as high culinary qualities, which are now meeting popular favor.

The third type or form represented by the Green Mountain and the Idaho Rural and the renamed California White Rose, and later by the Allegheny Mountain, See Fig. II also have eye appeal. The housewife has learned that they lend themselves more readily for preparing for the skillet than either do the round or oval forms. Anybody who has pared cucumbers or apples would choose the cucumber for ease of handling in peeling. These elongate forms lend themselves better to cutting crosswise for slicing or cutting them long ways for making shoe-string or french fries, and as for placing them on the side of the plate when baked they fit in with the scheme of platter decoration better than a spherical form and as said before when placed in the peeler they peel as well or better than the round forms. Perhaps, what the housewife is looking for is the elongate or oblong potato. They will bake quicker, boil quicker and are more convenient to handle.

No one can deny that Maine's reputation as a potato state was established on the Green Mountain variety. Time will tell what certain varieties will do with the reputation of certain areas. I have tried to correlate the relationship of quality and shape or color but find that there is no correlation. The American Giant was an elongate form and ruined New Jersey's reputation as a potato state as a result of their inherent poor quality. The Rural, both white and russet, were extensively grown, and have a high culinary quality when placed in the skillet, but their reputation is waning. Maine and New England were once the home of the Green Mountain. This variety apparently is on the way out. Perhaps no variety of potatoes has furnished as high a quality as that coming from the Early Rose group. Yet the elongate Early Rose with its pink eyes and high quality is almost as extinct as the Dodo.

Size

There is not much to be said on the size of potatoes except that the trend seems to be toward larger potatoes. The day of a medium size potato is about over, due to the fact that those on K.P. duty, whether in the home kitchen or in the barracks, finds that they can get more in the pot quicker and easier by peeling big ones than they can with small ones. Probably not so many potatoes anymore are eaten "boiled with the jackets on" and since the day of the hamburger and french fries, big potatoes fit into the french fry scheme better. For the good grower large size is no handicap in any but abnormal seasons since he can prepare the seed and the culture practices so as to bring out the larger sizes and thus even increase his yield.

Color

In spite of all the efforts put forth by potato fanciers, in spite of the finest quality that is wrapped up in skin color; in spite of their attractiveness due to white skin with pink eyes, white skin with purple eyes, purple skin with white eyes and all of the other combinations of colors associated with the various shapes of tubers, the market seems to demand a white potato. Many an old-timer still sings the praises of the old Blue Victor. The Early Rose, a pink skin variety of the highest quality, has disappeared except for a few local areas. The Bliss Triumph, except for its off-season and more in the class of a fresh vegetable in the winter months, would have long since disappeared commercially. It seems that what the mass consumer demands is a white potato regardless of its culinary quality.

In our planting experiments at Camp Potato we have developed a great number of enormous yielding varieties—varieties with various textures and skin color, but the commercial grower and the commercial market will have nothing to do with them, yet it appears that in many of these seedlings, varieties having various combinations of skin colors are where the greatest degree of resistance to various diseases is found.

External Blemishes

If the eye of the trade and the consumer is so trained to distinguish the color of the skin, it goes without saying

that a blemish no larger than is visible with the naked eye, serves as a sales resistance. Potato growers of the future will have to take the precautions of carefully preparing and conditioning their land so that it will produce the minimum in external blemishes from insects, scab and other diseases. They will have to take extreme precautions in adjusting the digger and other potato equipment to avoid artificial blemishes. Potato growers have not yet learned to handle potatoes like the fruit grower handles his apples or the poultryman handles his eggs, and yet rough handling shows up somewhere along the line on potatoes just as it does with fruit or eggs—perhaps more so. Whoever heard of a fruit grower walking over his bin of apples? What potato grower hesitates to walk over his bin of potatoes? All of us have seen bags of potatoes dropped from four to six feet from a car to a truck or from a truck to a platform. We all know what that would do even to a case of eggs or a bushel of apples—both better protected than a burlap bag of potatoes—and yet the potatoes are slung around and dropped at distances like pig iron. The marketing of potatoes in paper bags—both consumer packages and 50-pound containers—has done more to impress on the grower and handler the importance of handling them gently than any other effort that has been put forth on this subject. This care should be pushed right back at the start when they are being dug and carried right on through until they reach the kitchen table.

Internal Discoloration, Stem and Browning, Fusarium Wilt

A survey conducted in 1917 showed an annual loss to the potato crop of the state of 920,000 bushels from what was then called "fusarium wilt" alone. It was further estimated by the Plant Disease Bulletin "that fusarium wilt of potatoes caused an annual loss of 25,000,000 bushels in the United States, a loss greater than that attributed to late blight." In September, 1921, a project entitled "The Fusarium Wilt of Potatoes" was authorized by the Experiment Station of the Pennsylvania State College, and work was begun under the leadership of Dr. H. E. Thomas. Attempts were made in this early study "to determine as far as possible the distribution and relative importance of the organism causing wilt, especially Fusarium exysporium and Fusarium eumartii.

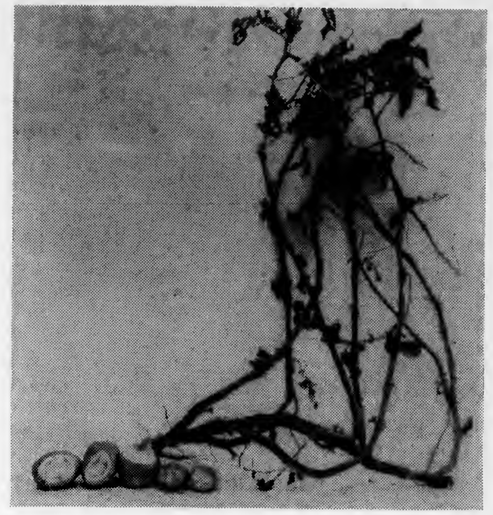


Fig. III.—Typical "Blue Stem"

Something over 300 cultures were made in this way from twenty-four localities in 11 counties of Pennsylvania. Judging from the cultures and the appearance of the material from which isolations were made, Fusarium oxysporium is the responsible causative agent in the large majority of the cases studied. However, a condition has been observed in the fields of the Western Penitentiary, Centre County, and of a Mr. John Park in Montgomery County, also on the farm of Mr. A. C. Kepler, Centre County, which agree inessential symptoms with the effect of Fusarium eumartii."

This is the first known reference recorded on the disease now commonly called "blue stem." Drastic measures were taken to "secure infection uniformly by artificial inoculation" but all attempts failed. One method recorded was as follows: "the fungus was grown in flasks or in bottles on steamed whole corn kernels until the kernels were heavily charged with mycelium and conidia. Pots were filled with about one-half of greenhouse soil and ten kernels from the culture were placed on the surface in each. The freshly cut surface of the potato seed pieces were then pressed with the inoculum into the soil. The hole was then covered with soil and watered. The infected kernels were also pressed into wounds on the main stems of the growing plants. The wounds were made at the ground levels in such a manner as to expose the vascular bundles. The kernels were then applied

and the soil was packed firmly around the stem. There was no striking difference between inoculated and uninoculated rows, and tubers from plants not artificially inoculated showed almost as much vascular discoloration as those from an inoculated row."—H. E. Thomas.

Straw Mulching in the Control of Stem-End Browning

In 1923 "plants were mulched with wheat straw when they were in bud and after two cultivations were made." This was done in a field in Lehigh County in which 95% of the tubers showed stem-end browning in previous years. "From this datum it appears that mulching reduced the amount of Fusarium wilt very considerably. Every tuber was cut and carefully inspected. The mulched plot yielded about double that of the same sized non-mulched plot."—C. R. Orton.

In 1923 a field of seven acres in Snyder County planted with Rural Russets direct from Michigan had 99% stem rot. (This was blue stem as we know it today.) Though the field yielded over 250 bushels per acre, the crop was unmarketable. In 1925 part of this field (about one acre) was covered with straw. The entire field including the area covered with straw yielded a crop almost entirely free of wilt. "The indications from this are that wilt is quite dependent on weather conditions"—Nixon and Thurston. Two other rather elaborately planned experiments were conducted by Thomas and Orton on the influence of various analyses of fertilizer and varietal susceptibility. The results were reported negative except, "The results indicate that McCormick is somewhat resistant to wilt."—Orton.

Soil Experiments in Determining the Nature of Fusarium Wilt (Stem Rot) "Blue Stem"

In 1929 several bushels of soil were procured from fields in Snyder and Lehigh Counties which had produced the highest percent of stem rotted potatoes found anywhere in the state. This soil was used for pot experiments under greenhouse conditions. Both healthy and stem rotted tubers were cut into four pieces. One piece of each tuber was planted in the above types of soil in pots and in the original fields from which the two soils were procured. No stem rot or wilt developed in the tubers grown in the pots under greenhouse conditions. The tubers produced from both healthy and stem rotted seed under natural field conditions were badly infected with stem and discoloration.

Truck loads of shale soil supposedly uncontaminated (taken from a shale quarry) were used to construct beds 18 inches deep in heavy limestone clay areas at Hershey and at State College. These beds were constructed in areas which had produced badly infested stem-end discolored tubers. The beds were planted with healthy and stem rotted tubers in equal amounts, one-half of each tuber in the respective areas. All of the tubers produced from these areas were carefully examined for internal discoloration.

The observations from these experiments indicate that neither infected tubers, contaminated soil or soil types were factors in the propagation of wilt, but on the contrary "wilt" is quite dependent on climatic conditions.

In 1939, half of oil drums were filled with "infected" soil from widely distributed areas of the state and located at Camp Potato, where the soil temperature is always low. Tubers were cut in halves, one set of halves planted in the drums and in field plots, and the other set were planted in the respective plot areas from which the drums were filled.

At harvest time all tubers, grown both in the drums and field plots at Camp Potato and in the respective plot areas where the drum soil was procured, were carefully examined for discoloration. All of the lots grown in the field plots and drums at Camp Potato were free of discoloration and those grown in the "infected areas at home" showed the usual and characteristic amount of discoloration for the respective areas.

Stem End Discoloration—A Hot Soil Disease

Several workers have called attention to the relation of heat and soil temperature to wilt or stem rot of potatoes.

"Wilted plants do not result from infected seed unless favorable conditions are provided (high temperature) which are at the same time unfavorable for the host."—G. R. Bisby, Minn, Bul. 181 1919.

"Discoloration in the vascular system is regarded as produced by physiological conditions such as too high respiration at high temperature as well as fusarium

(Continued on page twenty-nine)

CAMP POTATO IN CAPABLE HANDS

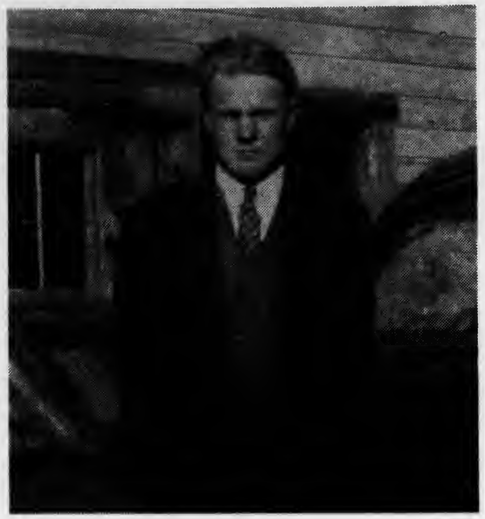


Meet "the Tuttles"—"Bill and Adeline" a finely matched pair who have undertaken the task of maintaining "Camp Potato." It is their ambition to render efficient service to members and friends of the Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers' Association. The term "matched pair" is used advisedly for Mr. and Mrs. Tuttle are a working organization that knows what it takes to please our visitors. They know how to buy economically and can cook the way you like it cooked, not fancy but good wholesome food well set before you. The Tuttles have had years of experience in camp cooking and management having spent many years in the Sheffield Lumber Camps of the Central Lumber Company. In addition to assisting at the camp Mr. Tuttle will assist our machine operator, Ben Bailey, on the farm itself where we expect to plant 60 acres—the greater portion of which will be in 2 acre variety lots of the most promising varieties.

One weakness of "The Tuttles" is trout fishing which they do within 2.5 miles of "Camp Potato" at a stream known as Dry Run which goes into Mill Creek an extreme tributary of the Allegheny River. They dearly love to fish Potter County streams and are most successful in their hobby. It was our pleasure recently to sit at a dinner with them when twenty beautiful trout were deliciously served. Believe you me—yours truly had 5 fish all at one sitting.



— Believe It or Not —



Also meet Ben Bailey, second son of Lewis Bailey, trusted manager of Dr. E. L. Nixon's farm. Ben has been exposed to large scale potato and soybean production for the past seven years. His experience with heavy potato machinery is coming into good stand. We hope that we can plan definitely on Ben's services although the Selective Service Board is not quite sold on the proposition although they surely must appreciate the skilled farm labor situation.

Food Problem More Serious

The most recent attempts by the Office of Price Administration to halt the wild increases in food prices seem to be making for more confusion as well as creating increased dissatisfaction.

The OPA list of ceiling prices on foodstuffs, now being issued, is an attempt to freeze food prices at about their present level. This is not satisfactory to the buying public. The announcement that meat, coffee, and butter prices are to be decreased ten per cent June 1st offers some measure of relief. But union labor has demanded that food prices be "rolled back" to those of September 15, 1942, when the "little steel" formula government wage increases became effective.

In its attempt to stabilize prices at present levels, the OPA has announced that subsidies amounting to hundreds of

(Continued on page thirteen)

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POTTER COUNTY FARMERS TO INCREASE POTATO YIELD BY 1,000,000 BUSHELS

Potter First to Use Government Plan

Potter County Farmers have accepted a big slice of the nation's war-time meal planning when they told Uncle Sam they would increase their production of potatoes by 67 per cent during 1943. The Government asked them to show an increase of 26 per cent, but the local patriotic farmers decided that they could do better than that—with help.

The Potter County War Board and Agricultural Extension Association got together with the farmers and by careful planning worked out a set-up whereby they could increase the yield of potatoes in Potter County by one million bushels this year if they only had the proper equipment for spraying, etc.

A committee composed of Rosell Leete, chairman of the County War Board; Bert Straw, County agent of the Agricultural Extension Association; Edward Fisher, prominent Coudersport potato grower; Lloyd Clewine, district held man for the Agricultural Adjustment Agency; and John A. Smith, State AAA Committeeman, went to Washington several weeks ago for a conference with government officials.

After getting to M. Clifford Townsend, director of the Food Production Administration, they presented their plan—simply that if Potter County farmers had the necessary certified seed potatoes and tractor equipment for spraying, they could materially boost the quantity of potatoes produced in this section of the state.

There they ran into difficulties, machinery of the type desired was rationed—and the ration figures for machinery had already been set up. Besides that, Potter County delegates needed at least 13 of the rubber-tired tractors and only 30 of that type had been manufactured since the ban was imposed on rubber.

However, it seems that the Potter County committee "had something on the ball." By pointing out to Washington officials that an almost unbeatable system had been in operation here for years, the government official considered it an excellent idea and has now told other farming counties that they too, could have machinery if they followed the set-up used so successfully in Potter County.

The "ace in the hole" proved to be the spraying rings established under the direction of the Agricultural Extension some 25 years ago. This system allows several farmers to own and use cooperatively one piece of expensive equipment. Otherwise each farmer would have to use similar equipment. Under this plan more efficient equipment can be purchased.

Spray rings today operate under the same basic plan, except in some instances the spraying equipment is not owned by the farmers but by an individual who agrees to do the work for the "ring" but owns the equipment personally. There are now over 20 of these rings in operation in Potter County.

Allowed 15 minutes of Mr. Townsend's time, the committee briefly outlined its plan. Mr. Townsend quickly saw the possibilities and called a conference with war board and other officials.

The question of tractors with rubber tires drew a "Hell man, rubber tires haven't been put on farm tractors since the ban on rubber, and won't be before 1944." Insistence that such tires were necessary for this job finally won the officials over.

The War Board had restricted International Harvester Co., to a size smaller tractor than the one needed for this job. The company was persuaded to change over and make this special order—if WPB would approve.

The word came that the tractors could not be released from Washington before August. The committee pointed out that potatoes would be ready for harvest by that time—what was left from no spraying. WPB said June 1. No, April 1 or no potatoes from Potter County, the committee said. Washington wants potatoes—and badly enough to cut red tape!

With this understanding Washington released the sale of 13 new rubber-tired tractors for use in Potter County. The

(Continued on page thirteen)

MEMBERSHIP—NEW AND RENEWALS

SINCE LAST ISSUE OF THE GUIDE POST

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Rotary Kiln Products

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H. E. MILLARD

Phone 7-3231 **Annville, Pa.**

Potter Co. Farmers to Increase Potato Yield

(Continued from page eleven)

tractors, under the "ring" agreement will be used this spring for plowing on the many farms in each group set-up. Then, when the spuds begin to come through the ground, the tractors will be used for cultivating and spraying at regular intervals.

The tractors are large size McCormick-Deering Farmall Model M equipped with rubber tires for use in the field and for traveling on the highways between farms. The machines, shipped from Chicago arrived in Port Allegany last week. One carload arrived a week ago Sunday and the other on Wednesday.

At Port Allegany they were delivered to Guy O. Witter, farm machinery dealer of Burtville, for servicing before delivery to their new owners. The machines are valued at about $1500 each and are equipped with special front axles to facilitate the job of spraying.

The machinery was government financed through the Coudersport Production Credit Association. The Association supplies $102,000 for the equipment, seed and fertilizer for this wartime project.

Each spray ring has a regularly elected governing committee which directs the work of the operator for the various operations. The operator agrees to repay the government $250 a month for six months each year until the cost is paid.

Food Problem More Serious

(Continued from page ten)

millions of dollars a year will be paid growers and processors to make up what they lose as prices are frozen. This announcement has aroused the ire of Congress. The legislative body has been opposed to granting food subsidies to anybody, and this effort of the administration to make effective by executive decree what it cannot get by legislative action has added more fuel to the flames of contention at Washington.

The administration's chickens are coming home to roost. The refusal of the executive department at Washington to establish and exercise firm control over the matter of both wages and prices when inflationary tendencies first began to be evidenced has led to the present confused, unsatisfactory situation. **Subsidized inflation** is not the **answer** to the problem, and that is what is being attempted now. In the meantime food prices spiral, scarcities are becoming more pronounced, and **black markets prosper** throughout the land.

A Proposal For 1943 Ceilings

Reduction in Excessive Wholesale Mark-Ups

The Potato Committee on April 17, proposed an adjustment in 1943 potato ceiling prices in a letter to Food Administrator Davis. The continuance of current retail price levels to consumers, is proposed so that the "cost of living" will not be raised, but it proposes that OPA immediately take action now under consideration to reduce the total mark-ups permitted in wholesale distribution from about 42 per cent to 22 per cent, a reduction of from 65 to 70 cents per cwt. When a maximum of 17 cents per cwt, to be allowed for other adjustments is deducted, there will be a net reduction in wholesale mark-ups of slightly more than 50 cents per cwt. remaining.

This reduction in distribution margins of about 50 cents per cwt. should be immediately transferred to the ceiling price at shipping point where it would increase growers' returns correspondingly to the level growers previously requested, if an increase of 17 per cent, or more, in acreage is to be secured in 1943.

Such a step would have the following advantages:

1. It would maintain the "cost of living" standard to consumers.
2. It would reduce excessive distribution allowances and eliminate the financial source of much of the black market.
3. It would give growers the increase in ceiling prices which they are entitled to receive.
4. It would eliminate the very narrow spread between ceiling and support prices which is likely to upset normal distribution.
5. If announced quickly it would encourage further increase in acreage.

ANOTHER ANGLE TO: POORLY PREPARED BORDEAUX MIXTURE

The Abrasive Effect of Hydrated Lime

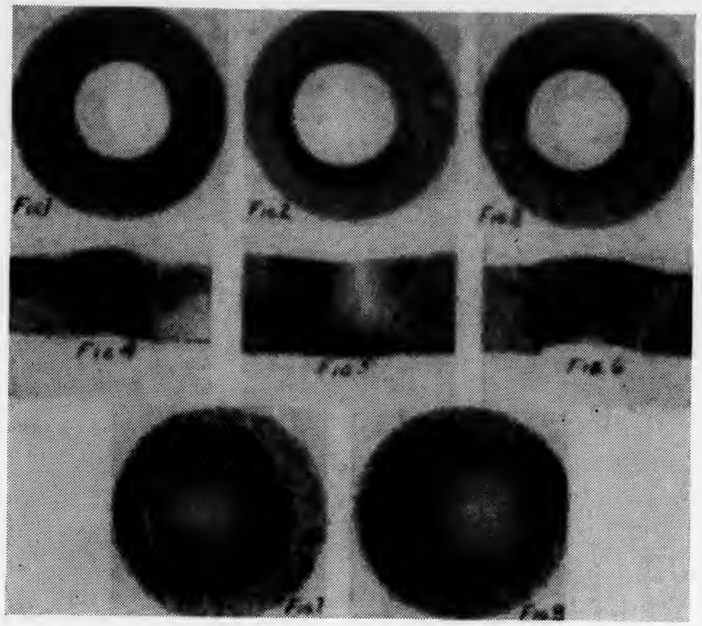
Since the discovery of Bordeaux mixture much experimental work has been devoted to its perfection. Many changes in its preparation have resulted from greater knowledge of the factors determining its effectiveness. One of the earliest changes had to do with the reduction of the copper content. The lime, too, has had its share of consideration especially as concerns the amount in relation to the copper. As to form, all of the earlier formulas recommended fresh stone-lime, referred to also as lump lime. During this early period not a great deal of attention was paid to the quality of the lumps. It was more a case of using what was available. Now a hand-picked product in convenient air-tight containers in which it is preserved indefinitely without deterioration is on the market. Thus with a technique acquired to slake it properly, growers can now make the most perfected Bordeaux mixture since its discovery. Experimentation has shown that the standard 4-4-50 formula is the most effective and economical.

During the period when a good quality of stone lime was difficult to procure and more difficult to preserve, other forms, particularly hydrate, were substituted for the lump form. Recently a finely pulverized form has been placed on the market. The purpose of pulverizing this form was to eliminate the sediment which invariably resulted from slaking. It is evident to any one familiar with slaking such batches of lime that this residue is made up of impurities, the pulverizing of which renders them undetectable by ordinary means and inseparable, of course, in preparation of the spray mixture. It is also evident that any such impurities found in the lump form never get into the Bordeaux mixture for they are of sufficient size to be removed by the ordinary screen which comes with the spray outfit. The cost of either the hydrate or pulverized form is more than the hand-picked lump and neither of them has quite equalled the stone-lime for effectiveness in our tests on potatoes or other crops. The single argument in their favor is that their use does not require a mastery of the art of slaking. Anyone, however, who has a discriminating appreciation of a properly prepared batch of Bordeaux mixture knows there is actually no more labor involved in using one form of lime than another.

Field observations over a period of years have indicated that the various forms of lime resulted in unequal wearing of spray equipment, especially of the disks of the spray nozzles. Accordingly, an experiment was planned to procure data under controlled condition. A spray boom of ten nozzles was devised to allow for continuous spraying with the several forms of lime used in the preparation of Bordeaux mixture. The equipment was arranged in such a manner that the spray material was collected and pumped over and over. The spray pump was operated at a uniform pressure of 400 lb. per square inch at the nozzle for periods of ten hours of continuous spraying. Stone-lime, pulverized lime, and hydrate lime were obtained from the best available commercial sources. Further precautions to secure uniformity in the condition of the experiment were observed in the selection of the disks for the spray nozzles. The disks used were all the product of one lot of a leading spray manufacturer, so that each series of ten disks represented a random sample, thus possessing as great a uniformity as to hardness, structure, and thickness as possible.

Ten disks were used at a time and the experiment was repeated five times for each of the forms of lime used. Accurate weighings were made of each disk before and after using. It was calculated that 600 gallons of Bordeaux mixture passed through the orifice of each disk during the ten-hour period. Any wearing of the orifice walls would be due to the passage of the spray material through them.

Examination of the disks revealed that the orifices were enlarged unsymmetrically, having worn more on the exit than on the entrance of the opening. The erosion appears to be conical (Figs. 2, 3, 5 and 6). It is well known that the spray as it leaves the orifice of a disk is cone shaped, occasioning the rise of the term "the cone of spray." Apparently the angle at which the orifice wall erodes approximates the angle of "the cone of the spray." It can doubtless be



Figs. 1 to 6 Photomicrographs of disks used for 10 hours continuous spraying with each of the three forms of lime used in this experiment. Figs. 1 and 4 Surface and cross section views of a disk used with stone lime. Figs. 2 and 5 Surface and cross section views of a disk used with pulverized pebble lime. Figs. 3 and 6 Surface and cross section views of a disk used with hydrate. Fig. 7 Photomicrographs of a disk from a spray boom which had covered 1400 acres with stone lime. Fig 8 From a spray boom which had covered 480 acres with hydrate. It was not deemed necessary to show similar views of an unused disk since such views would approximate very closely the slightly worn ones represented by Figs. 1 and 4.

shown that there is a relationship between this conical wearing of the aperture of the disk and the form and the structure of the cone of spray which in turn is an element in the effectiveness of the spraying.

While there was a fairly consistent tendency for the wearing of all of the disks of each set to be uniform, some of them showed unevenness in wearing. This irregularity, however, was no greater than might be expected from slight variations in hardness of the disks. The original diameter of the orifice on the inside of the disk was not observably enlarged, the wearing being confined to the outside. The final breakdown of the opening is due to the reaming out of the orifice from the exit side until it is cut through to the entrance side of the disk. Finally the thin edge gives way, resulting in an irregular hole, which then makes the cone of spray asymmetrical or irregular. (Fig. 8.)

The type and size of the opening in spray disks cannot be overemphasized for the most efficient spraying. It has been shown that size and shape of disk opening, whirl plates, and pressure are inter-related. It is clear that this balance is upset sooner from the use of pulverized and hydrate lime, due to the more rapid erosive effect.

The economic importance of this abrasive effect on the spray disks is best appreciated by anyone familiar with the cost of replacement. The **greater loss,** however, **comes from postponement** or **neglect in replacing** the worn disks, **resulting in inefficiency.** (See Fig. 8.)

This **differential outlay for disks would presumably extend also to the replacement of plungers, packing, cylinders, and valves.**

It can be calculated from these losses in weight for the various forms of lime that, if the same rate of wearing were to continue it would require 66 hours to wear off as much in weight with stone

(Continued on page thirty)

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The Abrasive Effect of Hydrated Lime

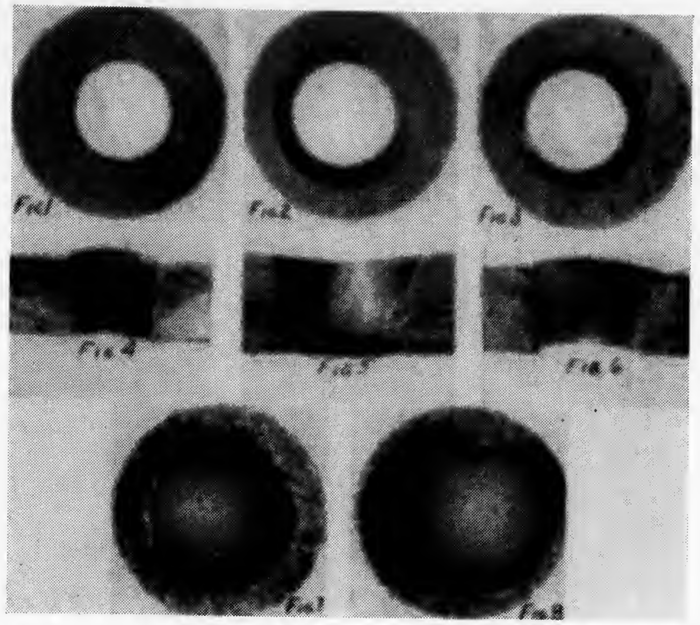
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(Continued on page thirty)

THE GUIDE POST

Published monthly by the Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers,' Inc.

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Intended Acreages Up

According to March 1 intentions to plant, potato growers plan to increase plantings about 14 per cent above last year. This represents an increase from 2,793,400 acres planted last year to 3,174,300 intended for 1943. However, 1943 intentions are 2 to 3 per cent short of the goal acreage. Early States are planting well above goals and Western States generally intend to plant more acreage than requested in the goals. Growers in Eastern and Central late States generally intend to plant somewhat below their goals.

With average growing conditions and a normal rate of abandonment, the 1943 intended acreage may produce a crop of 400 million bushels compared with 371 million bushels in 1942.

A crop of 400 million bushels with present estimated requirements for 1943-44 would give civilians almost 130 pounds per capita as compared with 120 for 1942-43 and an average of 131 pounds for 1935-39. In view of an expected greatly expanded demand for potatoes, it is quite likely that prices will continue high even if production in 1943 somewhat exceeds 400 million bushels. Moreover, 130 pounds of potatoes per capita probably will not be sufficient to meet expected greatly expanded civilian demand resulting from increased consumer purchasing power and the expected scarcity of some other food products.

Senate Judiciary Committee Considering Two Antiracketeering Bills

In addition to the Hobbs Antiracketeering Bill recently passed by a two-to-one vote in the House, the Senate Judiciary Committee has up for further consideration S.712 on the same subject, which was introduced by Senator Rufus C. Holman of Oregon, February 15, 1943. The bill was read twice on that date and referred to the Senate Judiciary Committee.

S. 172, although much shorter than the Hobbs Bill, is almost identical as to intent and purpose. The Senate Judiciary Committee has not decided which bill it will first consider. Because of prior legislation, however, no action by the Committee on either bill is expected for two or three weeks.

Gas Assured for Tractors

Farmers are now assured that they will be able to get the gasoline and other tractor and fuel oil needed for farm production this year.

The Petroleum Administration for War has removed quota restrictions from all petroleum products for farm uses in the east coast states and has given assurance for the whole country that farm productive needs will be given first consideration.

To insure adequate supplies for vital farm needs, the Department of Agriculture County War Boards will assist local ration boards in determining adequate rations for farm uses.

A Tour of Cooperatives

Traveling about Pennsylvania one finds numerous evidences of cooperative marketing ventures that are working out to the advantage of farmers, consumers and business interests.

Feeling that the distribution of farm products has not kept pace with that of production the past two decades, four executives representing as many different types and kinds of business and agricultural groups, spent two days together analyzing and inspecting four marketing cooperatives in four eastern Pennsylvania cities on April 21 and 22.

In the party were Dr. E. L. Nixon, agricultural counselor, Pennsylvania Chain Store Council, Philadelphia; Earl D. Bacon, Manager, Commercial Organization Department, Pennsylvania State Chamber of Commerce, Harrisburg; C. F. H. Wuesthoff, Manager, Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers' Association, Williamsport; and C. E. Noyes, Manager, Community Trade Association, Williamsport.

The cooperative concerns visited were: The Farmers' Cooperative Dairy, Hazelton; Lehigh Valley Farmers' Cooperative, Allentown; Berks-Lehigh Cooperative Fruit Growers' Association, Boyertown, and the Producers' Cooperative Exchange at Coatesville.

The object of the trip was to study different phases of organization procedure adopted by these concerns, determine the extent of their success, and finally to find ways and means of more closely linking them into a better relationship with business as a whole.

Several outstanding marks of high efficiency were noted in respective operations. The Farmers' Cooperative Dairy —W. T. Spaulding with a hand full of dairymen have built up a wholesale milk marketing organization, though small, that is setting the pace. Financially they have come from the red side of the ledger five years ago to a profitable cooperative "set-up." The most striking thing of the entire operation is the fact that whole milk is marketed entirely in waxed paper containers in cardboard cases and that all milk is "wholesaled" to retailers. The wholesaling feature together with the elimination of expensive glass bottles definitely contributes to efficient handling of milk with the least possible overhead. The outlay for salaries, building, taxes, trucks, etc., is kept to a minimum which allows a maximum return to the producer-members.

The Lehigh-Valley Farmers' Cooperative at Allentown with Glenn Boger as manager, seems to be "tops" from every possible angle. The plant is modern in every respect. Whole milk, cream and ice cream by means of all necessary pasturization, radiation, homogenization and refrigeration equipment are the major products. The entire plant is valued at well over $1,000,000. All of this is farmer-owned and farmer-operated. It was a most revealing sight and an inspiring lesson in cooperation.

The Producers Cooperative Exchange at Coatesville, managed by Noah Hershey, ably assisted by K. M. Sounders and Stephen Westrick, was another revelation of what might be done cooperatively. Eggs, poultry, fruit, vegetables and potatoes are assembled, stored, graded, packaged and sold at auction or direct to retail outlets. A refrigeration plant in connection with each department helps to eliminate extreme fluctuation of prices.

The office of the Berks-Lehigh Cooperative Fruit Growers' Association at Boyertown, was contacted. Their methods were studied and evaluated. Lionel Newcomer, Manager of this association, is doing a fine piece of cooperative marketing. He is definitely interested in eliminating wide market fluctuations that do little good to anyone whether he be producer, distributor or consumer. Apples and peaches are the major fruits handled by this cooperative.

The trip was highly educational and very enlightening. Certain improved methods that offer greater economy and efficiency in marketing and distributing of farm produce were noted. More such trips should be taken by more people in key positions who can be helpful to agrarian interests.

Price Differential on Seed Potatoes Is Removed by OPA

The differential of 75 cents a hundredweight in favor of selected seed potatoes over maximum prices for table stock was removed this week by OPA, which at the same time lifted the prohibition against the sale of the selected seed potatoes for human consumption. The prohibition against the sale of certified seed potatoes for human consumption still stands.

VISION...

The founders of the Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers Association didn't fore-see a global war with the resultant scarcity and high cost of burlap, cotton, hampers and other vegetable containers. They did have Vision on a program for the orderly and profitable marketing of the Pennsylvania potato crop. Included in that vision and based on experiments and sound experience was the wise decision to use paper bags exclusively. They knew that only the paper bag guaranteed the minimum in package and packaging costs and the maximum in protection, consumer appeal — and repeat sales.

American made kraft paper and bags are readily available at reasonable prices. Now is the time to eliminate all worries about containers and push "Pecks" big brother — "Fifty Pound" Blue Label.

SHIPPER:

"Never too late to learn. For years I thought I had to pack hundred pound burlaps. Mostly old and dusty burlap, too. Now I'm wise to the fact that I can pack as many Blue Label potatoes in 50 lb. paper bags as I did in burlap. With me getting older and most of the grown men away the lighter weight fits in. Works out fine, too, with the young boys helping in the emergency. And do you know I take a lot of pride in shipping out these clean, good looking paper bags."



DISTRIBUTOR:

"Sure am glad those shippers are now doing what we wanted them to do a long time ago — pack Blue Labels in 50 lb. paper bags. My men here and the store people really like the clean bag and convenient size. The store people always holler now if we send 100 lb. burlap or cotton. Say they make too much dirt in the stores — and the girl clerks just can't handle them."



HOUSEWIFE:

"Don't forget to put one of those 50 lb. paper bags of Blue Label in my car. With my husband on defense work and the children growing up I'm now able to buy the larger economy size. I'm awfully glad it's a clean paper bag instead of the dirty burlap bags you used to handle."

Remember all paper bags — regardless of capacity — have the same good points and advantages.



THE JUNIOR-GUIDE POST

Pennsylvania Junior Cooperative Potato Growers Assn.

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All communications concerning the Junior Cooperative Potato Growers' Association should be addressed to either Secretary, Daniel W. Keener, Neffs, Penna., or C. F. H. Wuesthoff, Gen'l. Manager, 410 Campbell St., Williamsport, Penna.

The Winning Potato Project Plan

Fulton County Director of the Junior Potato Growers' Association submitted the most complete workable plan. It is very well done—it shows that Leo has done some real constructive thinking and that he has grasped some of the most up to date long time production problems. The State Association wishes to publicly congratulate Leo, incidentally—his check is in the mails. The final rating of the plans presented:

1st. Leo Rouzer, Taylor Twp., F. F. A., Fulton Co.

2nd. Donald Wakley, North East, R. 2, Erie Co.

3rd. Edward May, Wattsburg, R. 1, Erie Co.

The committe examining and placing the plans entered in this contest was impressed with the constructive thinking of the boys in the light of doing a job. It was obvious that the contestants exhausted available literature and combined this information with practical experiences. However, there were a few noticeable facts that are not acceptable from the standpoint of the practices of good commercial growers. For instance—Plowing under soybeans when still green is a mistaken idea in soil improvement.



A MESSAGE From Our JUNIOR POTATO GROWERS' PRESIDENT

Private Leo Stout
D 7-3-F-A-R-T-S #485
Fort Bragg, N. C.

May 2, 1943

Penna. Coop. Potato Growers Assn., Inc.
Williamsport, Penna.

Dear Mr. Wuesthoff:

I will try and write this letter while waiting for chow. This is about the only time I get for writing, so I have to make the best of it.

I finished my basic training Friday, April 30th, 1943. Now I am on the shipping list again. I will let you know my new address as soon as it is possible.

I was very pleased to see and read the advertisements. I think they are tops, and I feel quite sure they will bring satisfactory results.

I am very well pleased with the way the older men have helped us and I know they will not be disappointed for after this is over the Juniors are going to show the Seniors how much we have appreciated their kind assistance. We are going to make you proud of us.

Right now we don't stand very much of a chance to do anything but when that chance comes we are going to be ready. Thanks to Seniors!

Well, there's the call for chow, so until the next time, "Keep them growing."

—LEO

THE WINNING POTATO PROJECT PLAN

My Potato Project Plan, 1943

LEO ROUZER, LAIDIG, FULTON COUNTY
TAYLOR TWP. F.F.A. CHAPTER, BRINTON GERHART, ADVISER



I selected this potato project because I am interested in potato growing and I believe there is enough money in this project that a fairly good profit can be obtained through the proper care and selection of land and potatoes.

With this potato project I expect to strengthen my experience in potato growing and enlarge my projects for the following year. Climatic conditions are also favorable for this project.

Selection of the land is the first step in carrying out this project. The land should be well drained but not steep and have a northeast slope. The land sloping in this direction gives a maximum of coolness for the growing tubers without shutting the sun away from the potato tops. The soil is red shale of the type known as Berks-Lehigh Shale.

This field will not be planted in potatoes the first year, but will be planted in soybeans. The reason for this is to kill perennial weeds and to reduce the damage which might be done by grubs or wireworms to the potatoes.

The ground will be prepared in time for the soybeans to be planted about the last part of May. Sufficient harrowing will be done to kill all preliminary weeds. About 250 pounds of 0-12-5 commercial fertilizer will be applied with a drill before the beans are planted. This will lessen the danger of burning the beans. The beans will be planted about 7 pecks per acre.

As soon as the pods have become well formed but before the stalks have started to turn color, they will be plowed down. Not less than six loads of manure will then be applied to the field. This will then be disked to mix it with the soil. Then at least four additional loads will be applied after the disking and left on the top of the ground through the winter. Plowing the soybeans down and disking the first application of manure will give a uniform mixture of humus throughout the soil. The second application will check any tendency of the soil to wash and will help to hold the rainfall.

The ground will be plowed early in the spring, not later than the second week of April. After the plowing the field may be harrowed once but not unless absolutely necessary. About three days before the potatoes are to be planted, 600 lbs. of 4-10-10 commercial fertilizer will be applied transversely across the field. The hoes will be set only deep enough to cover the fertilizer well. A second application will be applied running the same direction as the rows will be planted. This time however the hoes will be set as deep as possible. This will mix the first application of fertilizer with the soil and eliminate any need of another harrowing, enabling the soil to stay in a loose, cloddy consistency which is much superior for growing potatoes than a smooth, level, well packed soil. Water will be absorbed by a loose soil containing a good amount of humus, while a field which has been harrowed and dragged until it is level and smooth lets the water run off and the soil tends to get much hotter, causing a growth of abnormal tubers instead of well-shaped ones.

The field, which is three acres in size, will be planted entirely to Chippewas. I selected Chippewas because they are a smooth-skinned potato with good cooking qualities, and from the experience I have had with them I can expect a fairly good yield per acre.

Because of the scarcity of potatoes, the seed will be cut much smaller than in previous years. They will be cut in blocky pieces with one good eye to each seed piece. This will be sufficient to pro-

duce a good growth. Cutting the seed piece larger than this with two or three eyes to each piece will produce a slightly larger growth in a little shorter time but the increase does not warrant the use of larger seed pieces at this time. If the potatoes from the small seed pieces are well cared for, it is doubtful if a justifiable increase of potatoes will be produced by the larger seed pieces.

The seed will be cut on the day of planting and will be planted immediately. Although in some places it is common practice to cut the potatoes several days in advance of the planting, it is not to be recommended. The potatoes lose much of their vitality by drying out. Any seed which is cut and can't be planted immediately should be placed in the shade, spread out 8 inches deep and covered with wet burlap.

The cuts will be planted with a two-row potato planter. The rows will be 32 inches apart and the distance between the cuts will be 12 inches. Thirty-two inches between the rows is the most convenient for us because of our cultivating equipment although others find 30 or 34 inches more convenient.

The shovels will be set about 4½ inches deep, planting the seed about 4 inches deep. They will be covered shallow in the furrow with about 1½ inches of dirt covering the cuts. Shallow covering will permit the sun's warmth to penetrate more easily to the cuts and start germination in a shorter period of time.

About ten days after planting, the field will be cultivated. The cultivator will be set deep in order that the ground can be loosened up. The cultivator will be run as close to the row as possible without disturbing the cuts. One week after the cultivation, the weeder will be run over the field set as deep as possible without moving any of the cuts. This will be continued weekly until the rows are visible and then another deep cultivation will be done. After this, cultivation will be done only at intervals to prevent the soil from becoming worked down to a fine surface and to keep it in a loose cloddy condition. After the first two cultivations, however, the cultivators will be set shallow to prevent tearing the roots loose that reach across the row. The field will be weeded weekly and after each rain until the tops are large enough to shade the row and begin to lop over. This might seem unnecessary but to have a potato field free of weed this is not an excess of cultivation of weeding. It is just as Dr. E. L. Nixon says, "If you don't see any weeds, you won't have any." The last two cultivations will be done with the shovels set to throw the dirt around the potatoes in ridges. This will keep the tubers under about four inches of earth after they have started to mature.

As soon as it is possible to distinguish the rows, spraying will be started. The spray material used will be Bordeaux mixture because it is the most economical and most effective spray material for potatoes. The components of the Bordeaux mixture must be prepared in advance of the spraying. The two solids used in it must be prepared separately.

First a fifty-gallon wooden tub is placed close to the water supply. Then 50 pounds of copper sulphate is placed in a burlap bag which is fixed near the top of the barrel. The loose top of the bag will be twisted down to the copper sulphate and put as near the top as possible by nailing the twisted part of the bag over the edge of the barrel. The next step is to fill the barrel with water. In about four hours the copper sulphate will be dissolved, forming a one-pound per gallon stock solution which will not deteriorate. To make the lime solution, I will put 50 pounds of good quality lump lime in a 50-gallon steel barrel. Then water will be added slowly, just fast enough to prevent formation of dust and later fast enough to prevent explosive boiling. I will keep stirring the mixture with a spud and after it has become of a very smooth consistency, the tub will be filled with water and stirred until thoroughly mixed.

To make the Bordeaux mixture of an 8-8-100 analysis, the spray tank will be filled about half full. Then 8 gallons of the lime mixture will be dipped out of the barrel and poured into the spray tank through a 20-mesh sieve. Then 8 gallons of copper sulphate solution will be poured into the tank. Enough water will be added to make a total of 100 gallons of water. If your tank is larger or smaller the mixture can be kept in this proportion by using a smaller or larger amount of the solutions. Bordeaux mixture won't wash off the plants nor won't burn the foliage. No arsenicals will be needed if the following spraying schedule is followed.

The spraying will continue once a week for three applications and then the spray interval will be lengthened to 10-14 days, depending on the temperature and the weather conditions. The spraying will be done immediately after weeding or cultivating.

As soon as the hot weather arrives the spray interval will be shortened to not more than one week or shorter if possible, when the temperature gets about 85 to 90 degrees. Also a change in the Bordeaux mixture will be effected. Four additional units of lime will be added to the 8-8-100 mixture to change it to 8-12-100. After hot weather has passed the spray interval will be lengthened to two weeks and the formula will be changed back to the original 8-8-100. The spraying will be continued until the vines are dead.

The two side nozzles will be adjusted about 20 inches from the row and pointing down at a 45-degree angle, but kept at right angles to the row when looking down from above. This adjustment will give a maximum of coverage for the row and deposit a streak of spray material about 3 or 4 inches wide beside the row. A high pressure, 250 pounds minimum and preferably 300-400 pounds will put a film of spray material over the entire plant. High pressure causes a very fine mist which utilizes the spray material more effectively the pressure under 200 pounds. There should be an adequate amount of material for spray and not less than 100 gallons per acre should be applied at each spraying.

A shovel type potato digger will be used to dig the potatoes. It was originally horse drawn but this year will be mounted on the tractor. It will be adjusted deep enough to prevent cutting the potatoes but not to an excessive depth causing much soil to be lifted and covering part of the potatoes after they are dug with a subsequent use of more labor in the picking.

The potatoes won't be dug until the vines are completely dead. This will prevent digging a large amount of green tubers. If there has been any blight on the potatoes, I will wait an additional week after the vines are dead to allow the blighted potatoes to rot and the good ones can be picked more easily.

When storing, the potatoes will be handled as little as possible. A minimum of handling causes less expense, when marketing, from blemishes, bruising and skinning. They will be graded by a grading machine and bruised or cut potatoes will be picked out by hand. Those which are kept for seed will be put in a pit. About 80 bushels will be kept for seed the next year. The potatoes will be piled up in a long pile about 25 ft. long and 3½ ft. wide. They will be piled as high as possible and covered with a layer of straw. This will in turn be covered with about four inches of earth. When the earth is partly frozen another layer of straw and about 10 to 12 inches of earth will be added. The pile will be kept steep to shed the water well. When this earth becomes frozen solid, about two feet of straw will be piled over it and about four feet from each side. This will keep the potatoes cool and prevent sprouting or greening. No ventilators will be put on this pile because potatoes around the vent will freeze and mice and other rodents can enter and spoil many of the potatoes.

When the potatoes, which are to be markets, are to be sold they will be taken from the bins and put in 15 or 50 pounds each. Since they were graded before they were stored the No. 1's and the No. 2's will be placed in separate bags and clearly marked. While they are being placed in the bags, care will be taken to remove any potatoes which might have been injured by mice or rats or from handling. They will be marketed through the Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers' Association.

Records will be prepared before the project is started. These sheets will contain spaces for all labor expenses, hand labor or machine labor. These sheets will also contain the cost of any repair parts necessary for the equipment used in growing the potatoes. If parts are broken while working on another crop the expense will not be listed on this sheet.

All daily expenses will be entered in a notebook each evening and at the end of the week they will be summarized and transferred to the record sheets. The dates of all expenses will be clearly marked.

Other sheets will be prepared for the receipts from the crop. All receipts will be entered with the date and number of potatoes and where and to whom they were sold.

A notebook will also be kept to enter any labor saving devices, improved farm practices, changes in the project plan, or any other material which might prove valuable for the next year to cut down on production costs or to produce higher quality potatoes.

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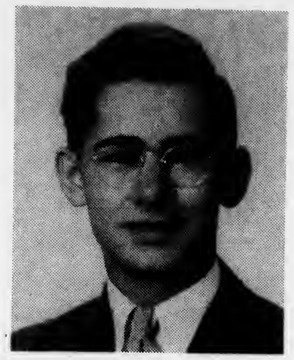
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James Helwig of Numidia, Catawissa, R. D., No. 1, Columbia County, will represent the Northeastern Junior Potato Growers on their state board of directors. James is about to graduate from the Locust Twp. High School's agriculture department where he has made a splendid record for himself. He is president of his graduating class, president of the Valley Chapter F. F. A., a member of the high school chorus, the Dramatic Club and an officer of the Youth Council. Generally James is a recognized leader among the young people of his community and is very much interested in the advancement of agriculture throughout the state.

Agriculturally the Helwig Farm operations contains 110 acres of very fertile land, which includes 13 acres of potatoes, 5 acres of fruit, 15 acres of hay and 15 acres of pasture. Their dairy consists of 12 head of milk cows. Potatoes, eggs, apples and meat are marketed in the hard coal area largely through wholesale channels.

James has conducted a good school and home project program throughout his high school career and will doubtless give a good account of himself. Characteristically he is an enthusiastic leader.

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THE CHURCH AND THE FARM

What easily might prove to be one of the most revolutionary and far-reaching developments in the history of American agriculture took place in Philadelphia on Sunday, May 9th at a city and farm conference sponsored by the Catholic church over which His Eminence, D. Cardinal Dougherty presided. The meeting was organized by the Catholic Philopatrian Literary Institute, and the purpose of it was to direct attention of the church leaders to the farm as the future hope of the church.

Leading speaker at the meeting was Rt. Rev. Msgr. L. G. Ligutti, executive secretary of the National Catholic Rural Life Conference. On the program with him were Wheeler McMillan, editor of the Farm Journal and President of the National Farm Chemurgic Council; and our own Dr. Nixon, who needs no introduction to the potato growers of Pennsylvania.

Msgr. Ligutti exalted the virtues of farm life and emphasized the importance of maintaining a prosperous agriculture as the foundation of a prosperous nation. He stated that the future hope of the church lay in the farm country because it is on the farm that we find the population growing; whereas the cities—particularly those in northeastern United States, are the nation's graveyards. In one generation, agricultural population increases from an original of ten to a total of fourteen; whereas, in the same period ten city people will decrease to seven.

It stands to reason that if the Catholic church looks to agriculture and the farm for its future, the other churches will do likewise. When the incalculable power of the influence of the church is directed towards a prosperous agriculture, then agriculture has a right to feel optimistic.

Mr. McMillan depicted the future of agriculture not only as the source of the nation's food, but as the source of a substantial percentage of its industrial material—plastics, oil, rubber, etc.

Dr. Nixon invisioned an American agriculture which has accepted the cooperative principle from the bottom to the

(Continued on page thirty)

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My 1942 Potato Project In Clearfield County

I entered the Cherry Tree High School in the fall of 1940. Being interested in agriculture I enrolled in the course of Vocational Agriculture. I also became a member of the Cherry Tree Chapter of The Future Farmers of America. I have decided to carry potatoes as my main project during high school.

In our vocational classes we learn the best practices for the culture of potatoes as well as other farm enterprises. With the aid of my agriculture teacher, Mr. Kline, I made plans for raising one acre of potatoes my first year. I obtained certified Rural Russet seed potatoes. I plowed under a clover sod to which was applied twenty tons of manure. I used 400 pounds of 4-8-8 fertilizer and planted the potatoes the 15th of May. I went over the potatoes twice with a smoothing harrow before they were through the ground and once after they were through the ground. The first cultivation was rather deep, however later cultivations were rather shallow. I sprayed the potatoes nine times. I had a yield of 340 bushels of potatoes. In 1941 I ranked 7th in the yield of potatoes in the State Vocational Project contest.

This past year I rasied an acre and one-half of potatoes as well as two acres of soybeans. I followed a program similar to the previous year except I used an alfalfa sod and used seed one year removed from certification. I had my potatoes sprayed by the new spray outfit provided by the SPRAY RING ORGANIZED in our community. This year I received a yield of 375 bushels of potatoes per acre. I was SECOND HIGHEST in the state in potato yield in the state Project contest. I believe it pays to grade potatoes closely and sell through the Potato Growers' Association. My labor income this past year on my potato project was $303.65.

During the present year I plan to raise about two acres of potatoes, two acres of soybeans, a brood sow, and some truck. I hope to make a yield of over 400 bushels per acre. I plan to join the newly organized Junior Potato Growers' Association. I will grade my potatoes and sell them through the Potato Association.



Carl Young—Cherry Tree High School

I find my work in Vocational Agriculture very interesting. I am vice-president of the Cherry Tree Chapter of the Future Farmers of America, and during the past year I have received my County Farmers degree.

Carl Young, Cherry Tree, Future Farmer of America.

Cherry Tree High School, Ralph G. Kline, Supervisor of Vocational Agriculture.

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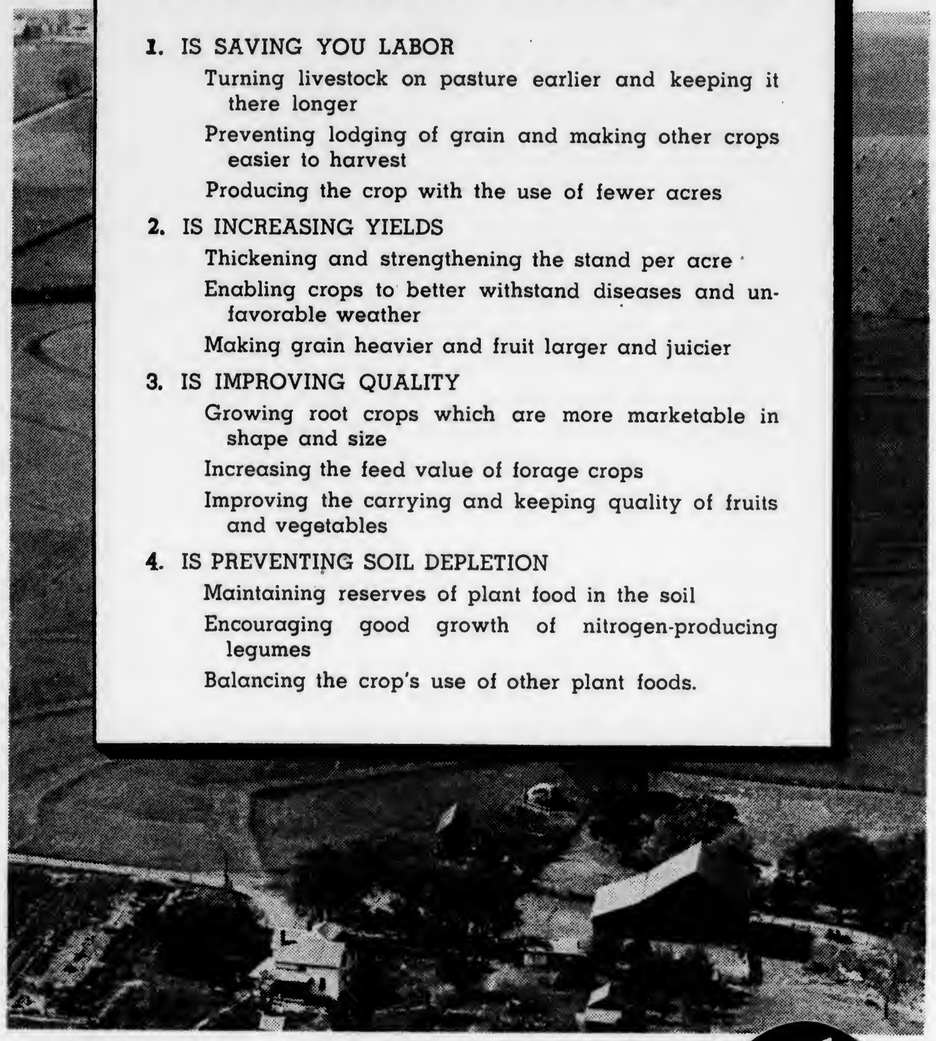
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A Prosperous Potato Industry

(Continued from page eight)

and perhaps other fungi."—H. A. Edson —Vascular Discoloration of Irish Potato Tubers. Jour. Agr. Res. 20: 277-294.

"Field in sod for 17 years showed crop uniformly diseased from disease free Maine Seed." Noted "difference in yield and amount of disease at various altitudes in county" believed to be "due to temperature." Does not see promise in resistant varieties.—R. J. Haskell—Fusarium wilt of potato in Hudson River Valley, New York. Phytopath. 9: 225-260. 1919.

"We may conclude that soil infestation and soil temperature during the period when infection is most likely to occur are more vital factors on the infection of the final crop than is the proximity of healthy to diseased plants or the preexistence of vascular symptoms of wilt in the parent tuber."—Orton and Eyer from Project notes, 1922.

In studying the effect of artificial heat on degeneration of seed potatoes as described earlier in this paper, it was found that the heated plots gave a high percent of stem end discoloration. Consequently an experiment was designed to test this further. Halves of 54 healthy tubers were planted over the buried steam pipes and the other half in an adjacent area unheated.

The heated area was brought up to and maintained at approximately 100 degrees Fahr. for 10 days at the time small tubers had formed. By the end of this period the vines in the heated area showed considerable wilting due to heat and desication. The unheated area was quite normal. At digging time 92 percent of the tubers from the heated area showed marked discoloration. All the unheated area were clean.

The results of this experiment indicate that two factors were conspicuous in the cause of internal browning or "wilt," namely, a wilting of the vines and a high soil temperature. When the natural soil temperature in potato plots was around 88 degrees Fahr. 100 plants were pulled so as to loosen them in the ground by hand the aim being to disconnect enough roots to cause severe wilting but not to cause death of the plants. Weather conditions remained dry and hot for almost two weeks. A later count showed that 12 of the pulled plants died. The rest made sufficient recovery to produce an average crop of tubers. Each tuber from the injured plants was carefully examined for stem end discoloration. Eighty-nine percent of the tubers were too bad for market purposes due to internal discoloration. The tubers from a similar number of hills adjacent to the pulled plants but unmolested were all free from internal discoloration.

While many other investigators have written voluminously on some phase or other of the vascular discoloration, fusarium wilt, "blue stem" complex, years of observation in Pennsylvania, together with numerous experiments such as those above reported lead to the inescapable conclusion that whatever may be the parasitic relations involved, the environmental factors, particularly soil temperature and soil moisture at the critical time is the most important factor in conditioning or predisposing the growing plant to a production of high percentages of vascular meiosis at digging time. Control of this situation, therefore, involves either manipulation of cultural practices including rotation and land utilization in such a way as to avoid this predisposing factor or the abandonment of late potato production in the most unsuitable areas.

If in the interests of efficiency and economy in potato production we admit that there can be tolerated no reduction in quality and yield per acre, we are forced to conclude that one of the most important factors in maintaining high yields of quality potatoes is disease control in all of its complicated aspects. We have attempted to show (see March and April issues of the Guide Post) how *Good Seed,* involving Freedom from disease, Varietal adaption, Proven sources, Proper storage; Foliage Protection involving Proper spraying, Deep root system, Proper culture; and *The Soil* involving Humus, Proper rotation, Root bed preparation, Weed eradication, Fertilization, Time, depth and distance of planting, must all be considered as part of any adequate disease control program, and how intelligent applications of knowledge concerning disease will help to keep the per acre yield at a level sufficiently high to insure some profit.

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GET A NEW MEMBER

The Church and the Farm

(Continued from page twenty-six)

top. He depicted the prosperity which will be returned to the farm, if the producer through cooperation recaptures the profits to be made from mass production. He reviewed the savings that the Catholic institutions in the Philadelphia area have made through cooperation, and used their project as an illustration what might be done throughout the nation

The most important feature of the gathering was that the attendance was entirely comprised of "city people." Imagine 1400 city people giving up a Sunday afternoon to listen to three men speaking on agriculture ! ! !

Has the time finally arrived when the city man is waking up to his responsibility to the farm?

Another Angle To: Poorly Prepared Bordeaux Mixture

(Continued from page fifteen)

lime as was worn off by ground burned lime in 10 hours. An application of these calculations to field conditions shows that a ten-row spray boom of 30 nozzles, each discharging 60 gal per hour, would spray in 66 hours 118,880 gal. of Bordeaux mixture. At the standard application of 150 gal. per acre this would cover 792 acres with Bordeaux mixture made from stone lime. In the case of Bordeaux mixture prepared from ground burned lime the same computations show that only 120 acres would be covered to make the same equivalent in disk wearing.

Actual field conditions approximate pretty closely these calculations as exemplified by Figs. 7 and 8. Fig. 7 is a photomicrograph of a disk which was taken from a sprayer after completing 1400 acres of spraying in which stone lime was used in preparing the Bordeaux mixture, and Fig. 8 is a photograph of a disk which was taken from a sprayer after completing only 480 acres of spraying in which hydrated lime was used in preparing the Bordeaux mixture. There is no telling how long inefficient spraying was going on through the disk represented by Fig. 8, since a symmetrical cone cannot come from such an irregular opening and furthermore, the proper relationship of disk opening to whirl plate and to pressure has been completely nullified.



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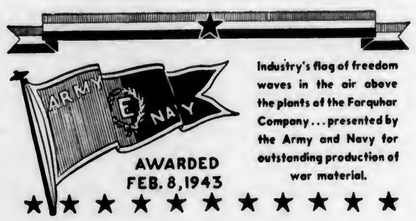
HELD BLIGHT
OTHERS LOST CROPS



Amid the rolling hills of Somerset—where war seems far away indeed, Howard L. Carver is farming a total of 131 acres, 10 of which he planted in potatoes this past season. Mr. Carver has been farming for 22 years and has always been more than satisfied with the Iron Age equipment he has owned. He says: "There is no better and versatile equipment than Iron Age."

Mr. Carver does his potato planting with an Iron Age 2 row Automatic which he also used to plant 25 acres of potatoes for nearby farmers this past season. He sprays them with his Iron Age power take-off Row Crop Sprayer and cites the fact that he was the only one in his section to hold the blight this past summer, because of the efficiency of his Iron Age sprayer.

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VOLUME XX NUMBER 6

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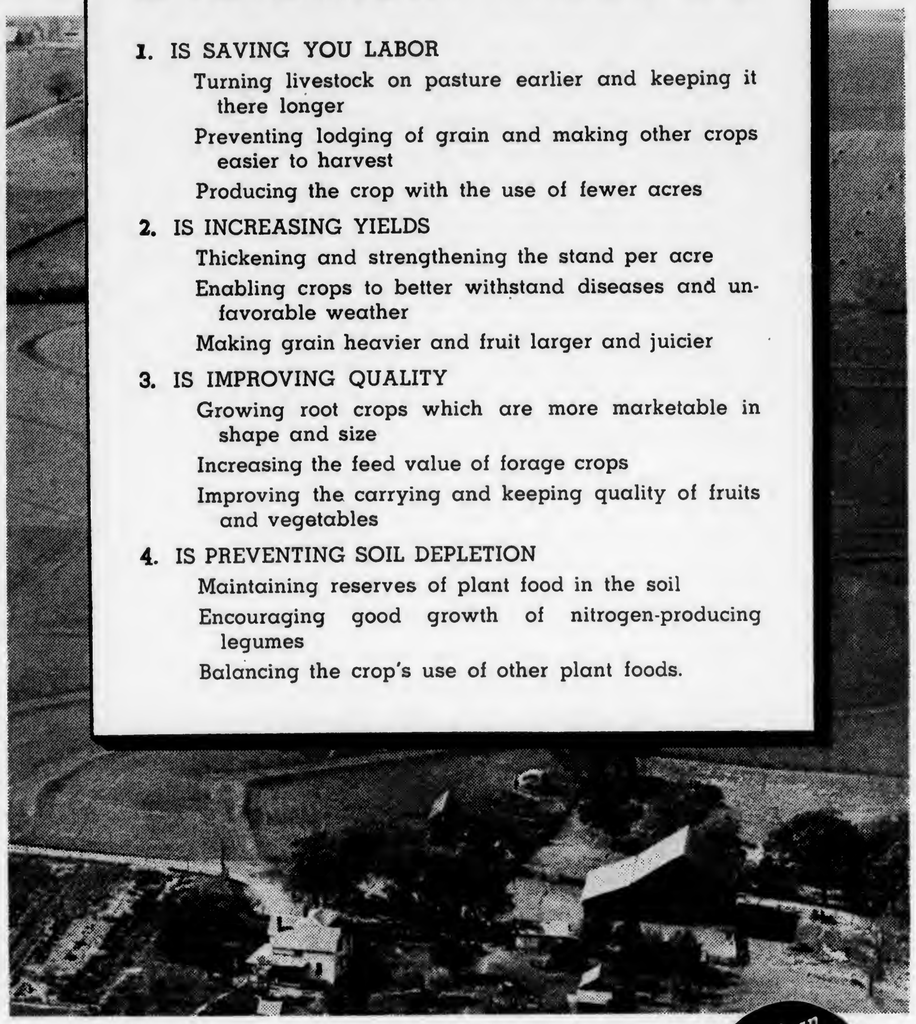
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A PROSPEROUS POTATO INDUSTRY

Conclusions after 25 years of Experimentation, Demonstration and Observation

Dr. E. L. Nixon

A program leading to a profitable potato industry involves a philosophy of seed potato development and supply. There are a lot of practical minds at work on the problem of improvement and supply of seed potatoes. Why the expression "practical minds"? "Practical" means capable of applying knowledge or theory to practice. No one knows better what is hoped to be accomplished in the various operations of seed potato production and handling than the men who grow and handle and produce them year after year. Consistency and conformity are the hobgoblins of little minds. Who so would be a grower and supplier of good seed potatoes must be a non-conformist. A reverence for the way it was always done is the other terror that scares us from self-trust. The fact is that the single important factor in the development and propagation of good seed is that the grower is in a foundation seed area in the first place and second, that he is honest.

To refresh your minds, let me restate the definition of a foundation seed area. *"A foundation seed source for a given variety of potato consists of an area or location for which it has been proved that devitalization of the particular variety does not take place, and the spread of the viruses is not so rapid that roguing becomes impracticable."*

The devitalization as a result of heat during the growing season has never been properly presented or exploited. Of course, no one who is a grower of seed potatoes or no state which has an extensive program of seed certification, likes to admit that they are in an area where devitalization occurs. The fact that big yields are obtained is no evidence that the crop is suitable for planting by careful growers the next year.

A number of years ago, Pennsylvania's highest per acre yield of over 600 bushels was loaded on a car and shipped into another county for seed purposes. It resulted in a miserable failure simply because the potatoes were not grown in an area where devitalization does not occur. It is much more important for good potato growers to procure their seed from proven sources which may produce low yields than to get them from high-yielding fields without any substantiating evidence that the source from which they come is not capable of producing vigorous seed.

There are many earmarks as shown in the leaves and vine growth which are safe-guides in determining whether the field under consideration is adapted for seed purposes. (See page 5 of the March 1943 issue of the "Guide Post!"). If the foliage does not show a sheen from smooth flat leaves, the potato grower who expects to make a profit from his crop had better reject such a field for seed purposes—even though you could only count three or four per cent of leaf roll, mosaic and what not. A lot of seed produced from such fields in the past have turned out to have as much as 30 per cent leaf roll and mosaic the succeeding year. This is ample proof that both devitalization and the spread of viruses are so rapid that the source is not within a foundation seed area for the given variety.

If the grower or agency who is handling or fostering the seed development program would devote more time to determining whether seed potatoes could be perpetuated in the area of his interests, much time, effort and misunderstanding could be saved to the industry. There is no use to try to maintain a source of seed potatoes by a program of hill selection, tuber uniting, seed plot development, when the potatoes grown within the area just naturally degenerate through devitalization and the spread of the so-called degenerative diseases.

The grower who makes his living growing potatoes is interested in procuring seed that is reasonably free of leaf roll and mosaic. These two diseased



Fig. 1.—LEAF-ROLL—The two larger hills to the left are healthy. The three to the right have leaf-roll. Leaf-roll prevents the normal functioning of potato plants. Growers should learn to know normal healthy plants of a given variety.

types like varital mixtures are merely indicative to him of how much care and attention has been paid by the producer to supplying a dependable seed. What he really is interested in is whether the seed potatoes have an inherent ability to produce a good crop and this is more dependent on the source and temperature under which the seed grew and was stored than the traces of various degenerative diseased types. Some varieties of potatoes — like the Rural — degenerate completely very slowly. One can grow the Rural varieties of potatoes in wholly unadaptable seed producing areas for a number of years without their showing enough mosaic or leaf roll to disqualify them under the usual standards of certification. However, their yielding ability constantly drops off until a seed from a good source planted alongside will often give more than a one-hundred and fifty bushel increase per acre on a three hundred bushel yield. The good potato growers, of course, have learned this lesson and make an importation of good seed at sufficient intervals to guarantee them maximum production with accompanying good culture practices. The "small patch grower" unfortunately still thinks a potato is a potato and keeps planting his seed over and over until it has almost completely run out as was the practice with all growers twenty years ago.

This is a contributing factor to reason why it requires 66% of the acreage devoted to potato growing to produce 30% of the total production. It is only natural for the wide-awake growers to procure the best seed that is possible to grow and what is left—whether certified, selected or what not, percolates down the line "good enough" for the rank and file of those who grow potatoes. It is like saying that a man with a big family requiring twenty four loaves at a baking must have a hot oven, while a man with a small family requiring only a loaf or two can get along with a warm oven.

There are three types or kinds of diseases that concern the potato grower. The one is exemplified by leaf roll, Fig. 1 and 2; mosaic, Fig. 3 and giant hill. Another type is the so-called tuber born diseases as illustrated by common scab, stem end discoloration and all kinds of storage rots and the new discovery — bacterial ring-rot. The third type is exemplified by late blight with its accompanying tuber decay. The first type or group is often referred to as the degenerative diseases. They used to play a very important part in the role of potato production. It was not uncommon twenty years ago to find fields with



Fig. 2.—LEAF-ROLL—A bad case of leaf-roll on the left and a devitalized plant due to heat in the center with a healthy hill from good seed on the right

100 per cent leaf roll—particularly in the Rural variety. It might be said here that the Rural group of potatoes is not susceptible in a practical way to the mosaic types of disease. The Rural family is very susceptible to heat degeneration and in areas where seed production is not practical, they are very susceptible to leaf roll and giant hill. The program of roguing potatoes in Pennsylvania evolved wholly around the proposition of removing giant hill and leaf roll in the seed production areas. There were not many other varieties that could be perpetuated in Pennsylvania and this is especially true of those which are susceptible to the mosaic types of degeneration.

One of the gratifying things about the breeding program at Camp Potato is that it has developed the Nittany—a cobbler type, which is resistant to mosaic, leaf roll and giant hill as is the Rural varieties. At the same time that the Nittany came into existence a beautiful variety resembling in foliage somewhat the Rural type came into existence and for several years we thought we had found THE potato, Fig. 5. It turned out to be so susceptible to mosaic that we completely lost it. The type of mosaic was so severe that the plant developed into what A. D. Selby of the Ohio Experiment Station named "Curly Dwarf" thirty-five years ago.

Leaf roll, the mosaics and giant hill have been so popularized among potato growers that other potato ills have al-

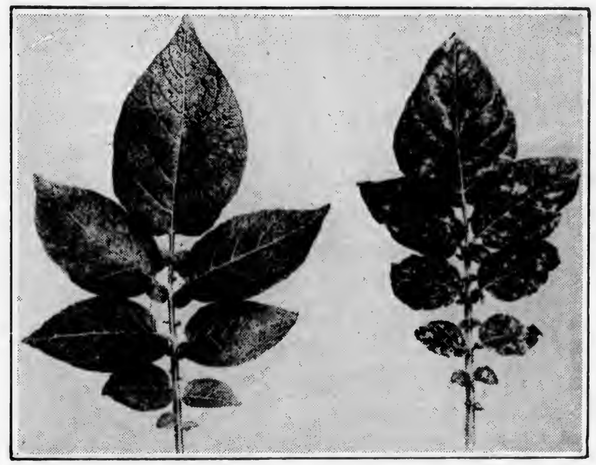


Fig. 3.—MOSAIC—The leaf to left is healthy while the mottled one to the right has mosaic—it is important that growers learn to know healthy foliage.

most been crowded out of the picture. Many growers are led to believe or think that if the seed is free from these diseases it is bound to be good seed. It was comparatively easy to clean the Rural family commercially free of leaf roll and mosaic so that today it is not uncommon to find whole fields of the Rural family that one would have to hunt to find a laboratory specimen of either of these diseases. Giant hill is more prevalent and not so easy to eradicate. It seems to be perpetually present in almost all Rural seed fields. Mosaic is undoubtedly a varietal type of disease, i.e. it is impossible to produce some varieties without some form of mosaic, and with some varieties it is a real factor in running the seed out. With some varieties it is impossible to perpetuate a high yielding source of seed potatoes on account of the severity of mosaic. This undoubtedly accounts for the popularity of some of the new seedling types which have been recently introduced to the trade. It begins to look like the Katahdin will be easy to perpetuate free of mosaic as the Rural group. There can be no doubt that the Chippewa will eventually and perhaps soon succumb to leaf roll. It is probably the most uncertain in crop production of all the new varieties.

One of the most encouraging features about these degenerative diseases is that breeding work is bringing out the fact that a high degree of resistance if not immunity, can be found in many new seedling varieties. If the potato industry has to depend for its ultimate success on the varieties of ten years ago, it would indeed be in a precarious condition. Of course, the Green Mountain could be perhaps perpetuated in its home country and the Rural family could still be grown in its home area, but if attempts were made to grow the Green Mountain in the home of the Rural or vice-versa, there would not be a great deal of dependable seed available.

All of the new varieties which are making their appearance in the trade today, will have to be subjected to the same area treatment as these older varieties have gone through in the last quarter of a century. The answer is not yet known—how they will stand up to all of the environmental conditions where potatoes are attempted to be perpetuated.

Leaf roll, mosaic and giant hill together with varietal mixtures should become the red flag to the purchaser of seed potatoes—i.e., if the crop grown from the seed purchased from a reputable grower, organization, or agency has a conspicuous amount of any or all of these abnormalities, the grower should conclude in his own mind that someone has been careless or slipshod in his seed production practices, or he has gotten a crooked deal. He is looking today for seed potatoes which, with his



Fig. 4—COMMON SCAB—This is the result of an excessive use of lime on the land or growing a variety susceptible to scab. A slight soil acidity should be with a pH of not over 5.5.

modern production methods, will produce a *good* crop of potatoes with or without a trace of leaf roll, mosaic or mixtures. This requires as much intelligence on the part of the seed producer regarding his seed area production and handling methods as is required by the good grower who is producing for the table stock market.

The second type or group of diseases are those which are commonly known as tuber borne. They are exemplified by common scab (See Fig. 4), stem rot or stem end discoloration and bacterial ring rot or bacterial wilt. Twenty years ago there was great commotion in the control of common scab and rhizoctonia by seed treatment. Many seed produc-



Fig. 5.—This was a new seedling variety developed in the breeding project. The tubers in every respect were perfect but the variety was so susceptible to MOSAIC that it could not be perpetuated. Every effort known to science was made to perpetuate it. Tuber uniting—hill selection—isolated seed plots and grown under canopies—all to no avail.

ers and dealers attempted to popularize their seed by advertising that it was treated before it was shipped. Careful experiments and demonstrations by growers who paid the bill, found that this was an unprofitable practice. As for the control of common scab, it is clearly a matter of the proper pH of the soil or growing the more resistant varieties to scab. Rhizoctonia is a cold weather disease and is partially overcome in a practical way by shallow covering and getting a quick come-up. It is clear that crops which have the tubers badly infected with either rhizoctonia or common scab should not be offered to the seed trade. It is a reflection on the producer of such potatoes that he is not even a good table stock producer, let alone a grower of seed.

Stem rot or stem end discoloration was covered somewhat in detail in the May issue of the "Guide Post."

Bacterial wilt or ring rot is the newest disease which has been said will threaten the potato industry. It has been widely exploited and enough of it has been transported through certified and selected seed so that most growers have had experience with it and are more or less familiar with its behavior. Bacterial wilt or ring rot, as the name implies, is caused by a bacterium and like all of the diseases of plants produced by bacteria, will not be easy to control artificially and very difficult, if at all possible, to eradicate completely. One would just naturally expect the potato plant ultimately would have been attacked by bacteria, since the by-product of the leaves of the potato as tubers is perfectly constituted as a medium on which bacteria would grow. The bacteria causing ring rot in potatoes is almost exactly similar in its behavior in the potato plant as the organism causing fire blight of pears and apples. For example—bacteria ring rot it is said will not live over the winter in the soil; neither will the organism causing fire blight. Bacteria ring rot will live over on the old potatoes in what looks like cankers on the tubers. Fire blight will live over on certain varieties of pears and apples in what are called cankers.

Another point of similarity between bacterial wilt and fire blight is that the severity of attack with both is that they are responsive to the growth condition as influenced by the weather. High succulency accompanying moisture and high humidity react very favorably to the development of both and conversely drought or heat resulting in retarding growth conditions will almost stop the



Fig. 6.—The new disease—BACTERIAL WILT or RING ROT. Notice leasions or cankers on tubers produced by bacteria.

development of both diseases. It naturally follows that potatoes from the same seed field distributed in one section of the state, or of a county, may be severely attacked with ring rot while in another area may be entirely free of it. It is also observed that one lot of potatoes from the same field planted at different times on the same farm may escape infection in one case or show a high per cent of infection in the other—just due to difference in the time of planting.

Bacterial ring rot begins to invade the tissue of the potato vines at a certain stage in the development of the growth of the plant, which is also the case with fire blight. Bacterial ring rot stops its invasion as the potatoes reach maturity, as is also the case with fire blight. In the case of the latter, as soon as the terminal buds have formed on pear or apple trees, the organism will no longer invade the tissue. Bacterial ring rot causes the potato plant to wilt as a result of extracting moisture from the cells in the vicinity of the vascular bundles through toxic plasmolysis which is also the way the fire blight organism causes the wilting and death of the twigs of pear and apple trees.

The migration of the organism through the tissue among the cells is exactly alike. The manner in which the two organisms protect and preserve themselves in the tissue of the plant are also alike. It is remarkable that the early methods of control of fire blight are the same as the early courses of control recommended for bacterial ring rot—namely, sanitation. The ultimate absolute control of either will be immune or resistant varieties.

There is no question but that the Rural potato is so resistant to bacterial wilt that it could be grown virtually free of infection. At Camp Potato we have innoculated a great many varieties with bacterial ring rot. On some, as in the case of the Katahdin, it is easy to

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"HELPING AGRICULTURE AND WHY?"

by C. E. Noyes, Manager, Williamsport Community Trade Association, Williamsport, Pennsylvania

Delivered Before Annual Meeting Pennsylvania Commercial Secretaries' Association, Tuesday, June 8, 1943, Harrisburg, Pa.



"CHICK" NOYES—one secretary of a Chamber of Commerce who believes that the great triumvirate—business, industry and agriculture should be working together.

I was asked to talk to you today on the assigned subject because we in Williamsport have enjoyed a measure of success the past five years along agricultural promotion lines. This success comes, first, from a fair understanding of the vexing, and yet not too complicated, problem of agriculture in our national economic scheme and, second, through the willingness of our business men and farmers to try and really do something about it, working together.

I shall first discuss with you the last part of the subject, because we should understand first the dominant reason for helping agriculture materially and financially for our economic well-being in order to appreciate what we have done in Williamsport.

Permit me to retrace briefly some history to establish certain fundamental truths which we did not begin to seriously recognize until the depression of 1930-1937. This history starts with free grass.

Time was when free grass obtained throughout the hillsides valleys, and plains of America. Then nature fed, fattened, and finished our cattle, and the farmers slaughtered, smoked, butchered, and sold it in the market places for token money.

Soon our government deeded those public lands to private title, and a new system of economics came into being. New farm boundaries had to be fenced into sections of prescribed acreage. The farmers now bought fence posts, hog wire, nails, and staples and thus arose a new wire drawing industry in the United States.

With free grass and land gone, our farmers had to provide their own feed so they planted seed to raise a feed crop to fatten their cattle. Men soon recognized the need for some facility in the growing cities for slaughtering and packing livestock; hence they sold shares of stock and built large packing plants in our new growing industrial centers. It is at this point that our farmers lost their first job to industry Thus profits were transferred from the farmers to the city workers through the medium of newly created factory payrolls.

Butter was once entirely a farmer's product. Then came creameries, which churned the butter into a better product with more consistency and under new scientific methods with the use of special machinery. Chemistry and science were at work, and again the farmers lost to industry, both in finished product and in profits.

There is the story of home-knitted socks which finally gave way to the expansive hosiery mills that sprang up overnight. And the old rag carpets soon had to compete with new rug factories in Hartford, Amsterdam, and elsewhere.

The farmer's wife cheered when yard goods appeared on the market from new factory looms. So she bought a newly invented sewing machine; but it wasn't long until chic dresses, frocks, and gowns were being made by industry to compete with their homemade clothes. Their husbands were now able to buy their clothes from tailoring firms which were being established on a wholesale basis. Thus job after job was being lost to industrial endeavor in the cities, and with these losses went profits as well. Our cities were growing larger and larger and teeming with activity. Their wealth was increasing and so too was disparity increasing. The industrial revolution in America was on.

The cycle continued. Hundreds of things were taken from the farms. Outstanding among these was the creation of the internal combustion engine with its multiple horse-power and, after its general adoption, smash went the farmer's market for oats and hay; goodbye went the market for mules and horses, and the profits went too. Where did they go? To the industrial life in the cities.

Oh, yes, progress was seemingly being made at every switch from farm to city. It was quite evident that the people in the cities were buying the products of the farms at distressed prices; were trading among themselves for the most part for the products of industry, and the farmers were proportionately getting poorer and poorer year by year, especially since 1922.

Cities were now virtually saying to the farmers, "You on the farms create the fat, the food, and the fibre, and we in the cities will make your paint, your nails, your clothes, your radios, your automobile, your everything in life."

The farmers didn't fail to grow the fat, the food, and the fiber. They were always on the job. Industry also kept going until it found it couldn't sell all it could make, not even enough to keep its men employed, and so the 1930 depression came upon us.

The farmers were now broke. They were bankrupt. They had no money, and they had no credit. So they stopped buying the products of the mines, the mills, and the factories. They had learned, by force, that they could do without the dispensable things which their forefathers had known nothing about. They discovered they were only buying the indispensable things, and remember these farmers of our land represented a quarter of our nation's population, the largest single unit of purchasing power in the land, and they couldn't buy the products of industry.

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Our country was not geographically divided. It was economically divided. It was the great industrial east country producing the dispensable things, which we all can get along without, as against the agricultural west and south country producing those indispensable things without which we would all perish.

We had reached an unbalanced economic stalemate in America. Industry in the east had grown with such tremendous speed and had placed, through chemistry, science, and invention, many thousands of new products on the market, which our farmers could no longer buy. By contrast, the farmers in the nation had through the same chemistry, science, and invention learned to grow two blades of grass where only one grew before. Thus apparent surpluses were created among certain crops, prices fell, and a serious disparity resulted between industrial and agricultural price levels. Then too, the industrial products were being sold to the farmers in a protected market while the farm products had been sold, for the most part, in an unprotected or world market.

Well, the situation got so bad in 1933 that our farmers, who don't forget, make up a quarter of our national population, only received 7 per cent of our national income as compared with 9 per cent in 1928, 11 per cent in 1925 and 15 per cent in 1920. Even in 1920 they were below the standard of the Golden Rule which bespeaks the fairest kind of treatment, even economically. I believe you will agree that true parity would imply that a quarter of our people should receive a quarter of our national income, or at least in that neighborhood, if a fair and even exchange is to prevail. Instead, they were swapping their labor at $2 or less a day for industrial labor at $5 or more a day. Such a condition just could not last. Farmers were not receiving even the cost of production, much less a profit for their labor and products.

While in 1936 there were 4½ million farm laborers actually receiving pay checks for their work on the farms of the nation, it is generally conceded both in and out of federal government circles that agriculture was then at the lowest economic level as compared with other groups in our national economy. And when the farm owner and tenant are added to these 4½ millions the results are even more disastrous because Mr. Farm Owner and Mr. Tenant Farmer rarely compute what their own labor pay is.

You may say, why discuss all this today? It is true that farmers now are receiving the nearest to parity in many, many years. But when the war is over we will surely face another similar experience unless business and industry recognize the problem and try to solve it. Only by providing our farm population with adequate purchasing power can we expect that large potential purchasing group to be able to buy in a sustained manner the products of our industries.

This is not an indictment of the industrial revolution which has made America the success it is but it is an indictment of the failure of business and industry to recognize trends and then do something about it. If business fails to correct this economic evil in the first few years after the war then we can surely look to government to again try to do the job which it failed to do under the A.A.A. We can thank the war for the present agricultural prosperity in the country.

Why are there at least 2,300,000 farmer members of 4,600 farm co-operatives in our country today? It isn't that farmers are superior businessmen. Not at all. The answer is obvious. It is self-preservation plus the desire by farmers to have more of the material blessings of life as represented by the products of industry. The greatest growth of co-operatives has taken place the past twenty years during those years that the economic inequalities have been growing between the farm and other pursuits.

I think we will all admit that farm co-operatives generally might be a thorn and an irritant in the side of our orthodox business economy. As business sees it they are decidedly one-sided in their make-up. One reason for this attitude is that many of these co-operatives are decidedly successful in their operations. They have adopted and applied the same sane methods of business with success.

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MEMBERSHIP—NEW AND RENEWALS

SINCE LAST ISSUE OF THE GUIDE POST

Park Speicher, Somerset
C. L. Sherry, Strattonville
Howard M. Johnson, Catawissa
C. O. McCandless, Prospect
Harvey M. Nester, Bechtelsville
Berton Thomas, Hooversville
James Kline, Williamsport
William Tuttle, Coudersport
Louis Bailey, State College
Elmer T. Meckes, Albrightsville
R. C. Homes, Shinglehouse
Andrew Petro, Catawissa
Vincent Wotring, Schnecksville
Albert Zeger, Greencastle
H. R. Gulliver, Catawissa
Zigmont Veneskey, Carrolltown
D. Lee Mohney, Stoneboro
Elmer E. Hess, Nescopeck
Allan Metzger, Germansville
Jack Perisits, Columbia Station, Ohio
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John P. Remaley, Schnecksville
Ben C. Bailey, State College
Carl Alexander, Williamsport
Roland Benjamin, Harrisburg
Roger Meckes, Albrightsville
William H. Hay, Somerset
Alex E. Krupa, Coplay
Reuben Witherwite, Bellefonte
Herbert Knepper, Waterfall
A. C. Mishler, Mogadore, Ohio
Edward Newhard, R. No. 3, Easton
Peter Lieb, Spangler

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perpetuate and in the case of the Rural Russet, it has completely disappeared. There are many seedling varieties more susceptible than the Katahdin, and there are many also that show as much resistance as the Russet—i.e., the organism will not perpetuate itself on them.

Trick: A drunk was watching a revolving door and saw a man walk in. As the door swung around a pretty girl stepped out.

"Darned good trick," he muttered, "but I still don't see how that guy changed hish clothes so fast."

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BLIGHT RESISTANT POTATOES IN REGIONAL TEST

Blight resistant varieties of potatoes are not yet ready for general distribution by the Pennsylvania Agricultural Experiment Station, but certain strains have shown sufficient promise at State College during the past two years to be placed in regional tests this growing season. This work is being conducted by W. R. Mills.

In 1942, blight caused an estimated reduction in yield of four million bushels in this state, enough if they had been produced to have relieved the current shortage. Moreover, a variety of potatoes which can be successfully grown without spraying would result in large saving of labor, copper, and spraying machinery, all of which are in critically small supply.

Breeding a disease-resistant variety of potatoes is a time-consuming job. If only a single disease is considered, resistant seedlings first must be selected or bred in the greenhouse. Then they have to be tested for degree of immunity. Later they must be tried locally in the field, where, as a rule, most strains are discarded because of being of poor type, of producing poor yields, or of being susceptible to other common diseases. If a strain survives preliminary tests, it still has to prove its worth in regional plantings; a potato variety must have wide adaptability to be of value to the industry.

In his work at State College and throughout the state, Dr. Mills is attempting to develop a variety or varieties of potatoes which will be highly resistant if not completely immune to blight, scab, and "purple top" wilt. In his work he is utilizing strains and selections which he has bred or selected himself, others made at Cornell University on which he is making further tests, and still others which he has obtained from the United States Department of Agriculture. As a result, the number of seedlings which he grows and handles annually is tremendous.

Last year about 12,000 seedlings were started in the greenhouse, all of his own breeding. They were inoculated with blight fungus and the susceptible plants eliminated. About 5,000 proved immune and were transplanted into scab-infested soil to determine if they would resist this disease.

The greenhouse crosses were unusually successful and over 250,000 seeds were obtained from 301 distinct crosses. Of the 5,000 blight immune seedlings transplanted in the spring, 475 were saved for harvest for increase this year. About 100 of these proved highly resistant to scab.

In addition crosses were made in the greenhouse between blight immune and scab resistant, and between blight immune and commercial varieties of potatoes, in hopes of developing improved varieties. Crosses and selfings were made and their progeny studied to determine the mode of inheritance of blight immunity.

Two hundred and fifty selected blight immune varieties from Cornell were grown under observation in the field at State College. One hundred varieties, of which 87 were furnished by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, were planted near Uniontown in a test for resistance to "purple top" wilt.

The 250 Cornell varieties were severely culled on the basis of yield, season of maturity, appearance and quality. Sixty-nine were selected for increase. Although susceptible varieties were killed by blight at one end of this field, not one of the immunes developed any blight. The test to determine resistance to "purple top" wilt was not successful because of a cool, damp season.

On the whole, Dr. Mills feels that definite progress has been made toward solving the problem of potato diseases. He hopes that resistant strains may be made available in a few years, but, as growers will readily see, his most promising selections may not prove as good as they promise to be.

—By FRANKLIN P. FERGUSON
Experiment Station Editor

"STRETCHING" COPPER FUNGICIDES DANGEROUS

Much talk is being heard these days about conservation of strategic materials and the possibilities of "stretching" available supplies of copper fungicides by reducing concentrations or by applying fewer sprays. For a food crop of as great importance as potatoes, this would appear to be dangerous economy, in the opinion of H. W. Thurston, Jr., plant pathologist at the Pennsylvania Agricultural Experiment Station.

Experiments which he has conducted indicate the necessity of applying full strength sprays and of maintaining adequate coverage in order to insure highest yields.

As long as blight resistant varieties of potatoes are not yet available, any relaxation in the spraying program is ill advised. Last season provided a fine example of a severe and wide-spread outbreak of late blight which was only held in check by a complete spray program using full strength materials.

Certain copper fungicides, particularly Tennessee 34 and Yellow Cuprocide, have stood up well during the past two years in comparison with Bordeaux 8-8-100, as measured by yield per acre. If these materials are used, they should be applied so as to give a copper content equivalent to that of 8-8-100 Bordeaux. This would call for 4 pounds of Tennessee 34, or 1.5 pounds of Yellow Cuprocide, per 100 gallons. The use of either of these materials can be expected to result in larger amounts of tip burn and insect damage and in a somewhat earlier maturity of vines without any great reduction in yield. The addition of contact insecticides, such as Derris or nicotine, to copper fungicides has little effect on yield and is believed to be poor economy.

There should be plenty of copper available for this season's potato spraying, but like any other war-short material, it must be used judiciously. Spraying potatoes, tomatoes, and fruit trees will consume about 75,000,000 pounds of copper sulfate this year.

—By FRANKLIN P. FERGUSON
Experiment Station Editor

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COOPERATORS of the NORTH EAST



PERRY KNORR—one of the "Spark Plugs" of the A. D. Knorr & Son Farm.

One of the most outstanding co-operators in the Columbia County area is the A. D. Knorr and Son Farm, located on the Bloomsburg - Numidia Highway. Mr. Knorr and his son, Perry, grow in the neighborhood of eighty acres of potatoes annually and market the bulk of their crop in the Association's Blue Label 15's and 50's. The Knorr farm was one of the first in this area to see the advantages of orderly group marketing. Not only do they market their own crop, but they assist in the grading, packaging and marketing of the crops of twelve other growers in their vicinity. They have a particularly fine 35,000 bushel storage and warehouse together with suitable trucks which assure the packaging and marketing of a high standard grade of potatoes. The Knorr's appreciate the importance of a steady flow of potatoes to the warehouses and retail stores of our distributors, when once this movement has been started. They also appreciate the fact that their association is interested in them and that it is ready and waiting to be of service from every production and marketing standpoint. They further realize that through the association's activities price fluctuations are reduced to a minimum and that no longer is the producer at the mercy of itinerant buyers and commission men. All co-operators are kept in constant touch with market tendencies and are therefore in a position to sell intelligently whether through their association or not. The Knorrs of Numidia sold well over 30,000 Blue Pecks and 2,500 Blue 50's the orderly way in the 1942-43 season.



THE GUIDE POST

Published monthly by the Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers,' Inc.

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HARVEST HELP

What is being done to assure this most vital necessity? Are urban and rural communities being aroused to the coming need? Are existing agencies sufficiently advised of the various community's possible requirements? Are voluntary groups being organized and are plans being made for their instruction and supervision?

We ask these questions *now* when there is still time to create the proper sentiment involved and when this particular War Effort can be popularized. The need will be most acute. Farmers have been assured that harvest help will be forthcoming or they would not have planted as extensively as they did. Communities and agencies must keep faith or never again can agriculture extend itself. The latter, the authorized agencies, whether they like it or not, whether it has been thrust upon them or not, have a responsibility that cannot and dare not be shirked. We hope there is place, harmony and good-will among and between agencies to the end that crops will be salvaged. All must remember that this is no time for bickerings, jealousies and politics. Personally, I feel there is never a time for this but if you must bicker and twiddle I would suggest that this pin-head attitude be foregone until the war is won and agriculture is in a more settled state. The "Piper" will be paid sooner or later. *Harvest Help*—is it forthcoming? That's the *point!*

IS THIS TO BE REPEATED?

BEAN HARVEST CRIPPLED BY LACK OF HELP

The farmers of surrounding Wicomico county faced a desperate situation today in their effort to salvage a bumper bean crop, as only a handful of workers responded to their appeal for harvest help.

Despite the declaration by Salisbury's Mayor I. Virgil Hitchens of a state of emergency in farm labor, only about 100 of the 1000 needed helpers appeared at the courthouse today to assist the farmers with their job.

Beans Plowed Under

Many farmers already have begun plowing under bean crops, including owners of some of the largest farms. In some cases they expressed hope that they could raise some other crop on the land before summer's end.

* * *

Relief: The Tax Assessor's office had to decide on which side of the U. S.-Canada border an old lady's newly purchased farm lay. Surveyors finally announced it was just inside the U. S. border.

The old lady smiled in relief: "I'm so glad to know that," she said. "I've heard that winters in Canada are terribly severe."

CAMP POTATO 1943

On June 19th—Plantings at the Camp were completed. Thanks to the splendid cooperation of the Staff and Ed Fisher with his crew

Are you going to continue with Camp Potato or are you going to discontinue its activities for the duration? This question has been asked repeatedly. The answer is—We are going to continue with Camp Potato and its activities for the duration and thereafter, to put it briefly. There is too much involved to even think of discontinuing for the duration. The Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers have much at stake, not so much from a financial angle for "the Camp" actually has cost the association in cold cash less than $1000 in any way we look at it. Construction was a cooperative accomplishment emblematical of co-operation in its true sense. The layout and plans are from a long-time point of view—these plans are gradually developing before our very eyes. The potato growers' own "Mecca" stands open — welcoming members, growers, and their friends, where good friends may meet for recreation, consultation and observation. We think potatoes from seed to the kitchen table. Problems of production and problems of sales and distribution are the major topics on the lips and minds of visitors.

Symbol of Independence

Big Business today depends upon its own research laboratories for inspiration and guidance. Thousands of dollars and thousands of hours are spent in developing ideas and discoveries. This keeps "Big Business" in the commercial and industrial competitive picture.

The Potato Business is Big Business and "Camp Potato" *without governmental subsidies* is the potato growers' practical laboratory where new varieties are bred, proven and developed, where practical disease control is demonstrated in a big way, where fertilizer applications are tested, where storing, grading and packaging are tried and proved, where hormones and the various tones are given a trial, where practical machinery is tried, readjusted and remodeled to suit obvious requirements. All this and more too.

Federal and state laboratories are desirable but due to their past apparent limited facilities, their efforts have not been sufficient to do all that is necessary to be done for this developing Potato Industry of Pennsylvania. The state growers expect their tax-supported institutions to supplement and co-operate to the end that generally Pennsylvania's agriculture may have its rightful place in this wonderful country of ours and that particularly Pennsylvania's potatoes are recognized as second to none. Impossible—you say! Ah no, it is possible—the progress of the past five years has proven that it is most probably and decidedly possible. It was said not too long ago that we could not meet U. S. No. 1 standards—what a misstatement that was. Now we ask you—!

So far this year of 1943—in spite of weather conditions, Camp Potato has over 52 acres of potatoes planted in Potter County. Several acres of these are devoted entirely to 5,000 one, two and three year old seedlings, the balance to some 50 most outstanding and most promising developments that have been carried along for six years because of their desirability.

PROBABLY A NEW POTATO DISEASE

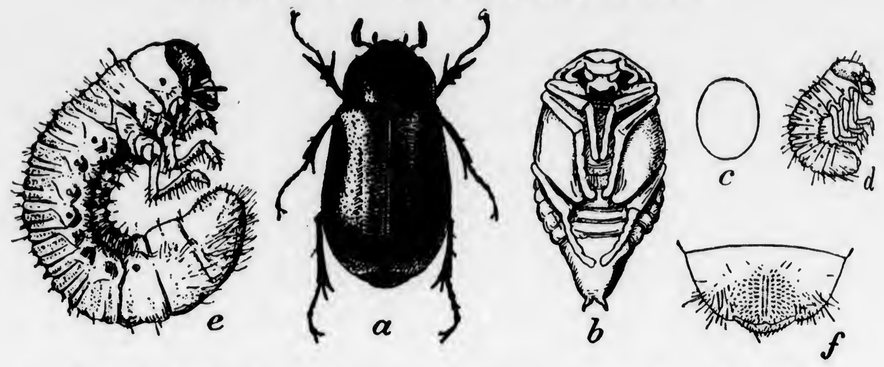
Plant pathologists of the New Jersey Experiment Station will be on the alert this year for what may be a new disease of white potatoes, first observed in the state last year.

Affected plants show a thickening of the main stem, accompanied by a stimulation of many buds that normally remain dormant. Growth of these buds produces an unusually large number of shoots. Another symptom of the disease is a large number of small leaves, especially at the top of the plant. They give the plant a very compact, leafy appearance.

The New Jersey Experiment Station (New Brunswick, N. J.) is urging all potato growers to report any plants that exhibit the symptoms.

WHITE GRUBS AND WIREWORMS

THE EVILS ACCOMPANYING "OLD SOD"



c—Egg; d—small larva; e—2 yr. old grub; b—pupa; a—the June bug.

You were aware of the June Bug flying about—this is their mating season, *when the foundation for future damage is being laid.* Eggs are laid in masses from 1 to 5 inches deep in old sod, notably timothy and more commonly in light, dry soils, which is the reverse of the wire worm whose eggs are laid in the same sod but in moist, heavy soils. The June Bug's carefully laid egg hatches within two weeks, usually by the middle of July, into small *white grubs* which feed upon plant roots. They grow slowly, requiring 2 to 3 years to become fully grown. In the fall of the first year they burrow down into the soil, going deeper as frost approaches, most of them wintering from 7 to 14 inches below the surface. In their second year the damage to potatoes, corn and strawberries, etc., becomes most serious. There have been instances where *white grubs* were so numerous in the newly opened furrow that tractor wheels skidded and lost their traction. When the *white grub* is two and possibly three years old it forms a small oval cell from 3 to 10 inches below the surface and there changes to a soft, white pupa some time in July. This stage lasts over three weeks and in August or September the adult beetle wiggles out of the pupal skin but remains in the cell until the following spring, when it comes forth fully hardened. Thus three years are occupied by the life cycle of each brood, the grubs in all stages of development may be found in the soil every year.

The beetles feed on the foliage of trees during the night and when great swarms appear they are capable of defoliating trees. Ordinarily the damage may be very noticeable but not serious except where the appearance of individual shade trees may be spoiled by their feeding.

Eggs are laid by preference on timothy or bluegrass sod or in any ground which was in small grain crops the previous year and seeded to hay crops. These eggs hatch in three or four weeks after being deposited and the young grubs feed for a time on decaying vegetation and later may feed on the roots. The most severe damage will occur in 1944 when the large grubs will be feeding through the entire summer. There will be little or no feeding in 1945 as except for a short period early in the spring when the grubs will be changing to pupae and beetles.

The control is *shorter rotations—avoiding sod* if at all possible. Since the beetles remain in the pupal cells over winter and are quite tender, it is often thought advisable to plow deep and harrow thoroughly in the late fall or early spring. This exposes them to extreme temperature and buries and crushes many.

Prevention of damage by the rotation of crops so that corn or potatoes do not follow on land that is in blue grass, timothy or small grains during the year that the beetles are laying eggs is the best practice. Corn land or fields in other crops that are well cultivated during the beetle year will not have many eggs laid in them as the beetles do not go to such fields to lay their eggs. Clover is the least susceptible crop and pure stands are seldom attacked by grubs.

Control of wireworms is not so clean-cut an operation. Several different species are known to occur in Pennsylvania among which the wheat wireworms are the most destructive in the northern and western counties. These usually cause damage to corn, wheat and potatoes planted on land following sod.

The wheat wireworm is the most numerous and destructive. The life cycle is three or four years. Beetles appear during May to July. In three weeks eggs hatch. Growth of the young wireworms is very slow during the first year and hardly exceeds one-fourth inch. During the second year growth is more rapid. Some of these wireworms mature and pupate during July and August of the third year. The remainder during the fourth year.

For these wireworms cultural and rotational practices appear to be the most effective. However, the effectiveness of a certain practice may be variable in proportion to the number of species involved. As this may differ in different fields or different areas the practices may need adjustment to suit these conditions. Since the wheat wireworm infestations start in sod land and the first year worms prefer to feed in sod, a prime factor in arranging a rotation is to eliminate sod where it will appear as a crop every third year or third and fourth year or it will coincide directly with the completion of the cycle and such rotations are continuously infested. A system of crop rotation should be arranged so that a cultivated crop will appear following sod and sod should preferably not fall in with the period of beetle emergence and egg laying.

Protecting America's "Food for Victory"

LETHANE 60. Used by your dust mixer to fortify botanical dusts. Replaces part of the rotenone or pyrethrum, stretches this country's supply of these imported botanicals, holds down cost. Yet you get a better, faster-killing dust. Look for the LETHANE 60 emblem on the tag when you buy rotenone or pyrethrum dust.

***Yellow* CUPROCIDE Spray.** Contains over 80% copper; only 1½ lbs. make 100 gals. spray at a cost comparable to Bordo. Gives you excellent blight control with no lime burn, no messy mixing. Can be used with rotenone or pyrethrum. *Yellow* CUPROCIDE is non-corrosive, saves on machinery repairs, lessens clogging of nozzles.

CUPROCIDE Dust. Made by your dust mixer with *Yellow* CUPROCIDE. Doesn't require moisture—dust day or night. Contains no lime to burn your skin or reduce crop yield. The billions of copper particles in each pound of dust stick tight and protect your crop from blight. To get CUPROCIDE Dust, look for this emblem on the tag:

LETHANE *and* CUPROCIDE *are trade-marks, Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.*

ROHM & HAAS COMPANY

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Manufacturers of LETHANE 60 and CUPROCIDE

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Calvin M. Will, Somerset ..V.-President
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"How Do You Know?"

Whoever said that you couldn't do
Exactly the thing you are planning to?
Whoever thought that you couldn't climb
Up to the sun with its heights sublime?
Who has advised you to check your pace,
Give up the struggle and lose the race,
Crawl off discouraged and hide your face?
Nobody but you!

You are the one who has done it all,
Deserted your castles and let them fall,
Smothered the spark of ambition's fire,
Shut off the current and cut the wire.
How do you know when the die is cast,
How do you know when the crowd goes past,
Who will be the Leader and who will be the last?
How do you know?

Life is not merely a game of chance
And you are not the victim of circumstance.
Knowing is too hard for a man to do
Provided, of course, that he wishes to.
Wishes it more than a miser's wealth,
Works for it, prays for it, night and day,
Feels that no price is too great to pay.
How do you know till you strive that way?
How do you know?

THE PLOW

It was I who built Chaldea and the city of the plain
I was Greece and Rome in Carthage and the Opulence of Spain.
When their courtiers walked in scarlet and the Queen wore chains of gold,
And forgot,'twas I that made them
Growing godless folk and bold.
I went over them in judgment, and again my cornfields good
When empty courts bowed homage in obsequious multitudes.
For the nation that forgets me,
In that hour her doom is sealed
By a judgment as from heaven, that can never be repealed.

* * *

Relieved Motorist: A woman motorist in Sandpoint, Idaho, swerved to a sudden stop before the county jail.

"What's happening?" she asked excitedly.

"We just had an earthquake," explained a deputy sheriff.

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"Whas zat?"

"What's your name and address?"

"Seems lak yo' ought to know—yo' all sent for me."

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(Seniors)

Pres. M. P. Whitenight called a meeting for Friday, June 25 at State College —Very important business will be brought before the group at this time.

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Left to right, front row—James Cline, Edgar Hunter, Walter Winters, Carl Alexander, James Mitchell and Robert Mostellar. Back row—Henry Wuesthoff, manager of the Pennsylvania Potato Growers' Association; James Mosteller, Ben Bailey, of State College, camp field director; John Shirey, agricultural teacher at Jersey Shore High School, and Dr. E. L. Nixon, of State College. Note seedling babies in foreground.

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AND "DOING TO LEARN"

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INTENTIONAL SECOND EXPOSURE

sion that the South Williamsport Chapter had participated in the Camp Potato seedling planting program, though only one member, James Mosteller, had been on all four trips.

The educational value of these trips to Camp Potato is hard to estimate. The knowledge of potato growing and of plant breeding work in particular, interestingly told by "Doc" and mixed with his homely philosophy while the boys work, eat, play or enjoy the Camp fireplace, is worth many days in the classroom.

The "Camp Potato" staff was most appreciative of our assistance and was a most admirable host. Most of the boys hope to return this summer to see what their labors have accomplished in this worthwhile project of Doing and Learning.

Pictured on page 21 are members of the South Williamsport chapter of Lycoming County Future Farmers of America and advisers, the first group this year to visit Camp Potato, near Coudersport. The group recently took the two-day trip with Charles D. Carey, county vocational superintendent of agriculture, to do farm work at the experimental and proving ground of the Pennsylvania Potato Growers Association.

They planted 3,000 new varieties of first-year seed potatoes sent there from Hershey, where the seedlings are grown. The group brought back with them 75 bushels of potatoes developed at the camp to try growing them throughout the county.

Thirty bushels were planted by the Muncy chapter, 20 by Hughesville, 21 at Hepburnville, and 4 by the Jersey Shore chapter.

MUNCY CHAPTER FUTURE FARMERS GO IN FOR LARGE SCALE FARMING

Three years ago the Muncy Chapter, F.F.A., started under the leadership of L. A. Girven, Vocational Instructor, a group project, renting twenty acres of land near the school. They arranged a loan at their local bank and acquired a tractor, with one-way plow, and cultivator attachments.

The second year, having paid for their tractor, they expanded to approximately 75 acres, purchased a small combine, a power take-off for the tractor and in farm shop made themselves a wagon.

With a second successful year, the boys became really ambitious, took over, through rental, another farm, making a total of 140 acres. Another tractor with two-way plow and cultivator attachments, was purchased and the boys made another wagon in their farm shop.

Sixteen members are at present in the group project, two on full time. These two leaders and main engineers (chief tractor operators) are Henry Gordner, age 15, and Walter Rosenbaum, 16, both members of Junior Potato Growers' Association. The others in the project are Donald Bogart, Marvin Barto, Robert Bieler, Gene Bieler, Arthur Bieler, Howard Pewterbaugh, Wilbur Kleas, Charles Star, Max Person, Nelson Sevan, James Opp, James Grow, Beaver Waldron, and Elton Kibby.

Their crops and acreages for 1943 are as follows: 45 acres of field corn, 27 acres of soybeans, 17 acres oats, 10 acres sweet corn (cannery crop), 10 acres wheat, 2 acres potatoes, and 29 acres hay.

In addition to preparing their own ground the boys last year did custom work to the amount of $170.00 and this year have earned to date $260.00, much of the work being the plowing and preparation of Victory Garden plots. In this phase alone the chapter has made an enviable reputation. Shortage of labor and machinery in the community gave them an opportunity to help the war effort in no small way. The result—a job well done and a really satisfied customer.

Proving and Testing New Potato Varieties

The Muncy Chapter F.F.A. as part of their 140-acre group project are testing out on a plot, or field, of sandy loam 30 bushels of new varieties which have proved outstanding at Camp Potato. Pocono and Allegheny Mountains already proven outstanding in some areas are included. Six others, not yet named, are in the plot. They are off to a good



MUNCY'S GROUP PROJECT—Left to right, L. A. Girven, Voc. Instructor, Henry Gardner, Walter Rosenbaum and C. F. H. Wuesthoff, Secretary, Potato Growers' Association.

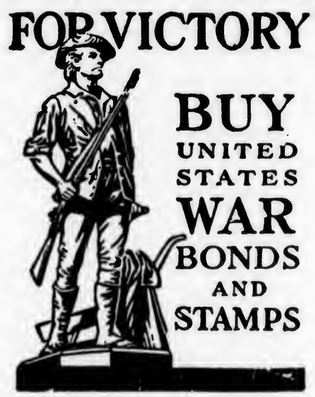
start, in spite of unfavorable weather conditions, which have made adequate weed control and spraying impossible. The boys are now waging a knock-out fight with the weeds and hope from now on to maintain a regular spray schedule.

The potatoes were planted with a planter and fertilized with 1500 pounds 4-12-12. The chief engineers of this ambitious F.F.A. group are Henry Gordner, 15, and Walter Rosenbaum, 16, both members of the Junior Pennsylvania Potato Growers.

A map of the plot has been made and the boys will keep a careful check on growing conditions, vine growth, evident disease resistance or susceptibility, total yield, per cent marketable tubers, quality, etc., with the assistance of the staff of the Pennsylvania Co-operative Potato Growers' Association.

Hybrid Corn Breeding

Another feature of the program of these Future Farmers that is of special interest is the raising of hybrid corn for seed. This work is being done in cooperation with Dr. Eyster of Bucknell University. Twenty-five of their forty-five acres of field corn are planted to this hybrid corn, in the making. It will be specially detasseled and pollinated under the direct supervision of Dr. Eyster and his staff. The F.F.A. boys will receive a special bonus of 40c per bushel above top seed corn price for their share of the work.



CLINTON COOPERATION



On Thursday, June 3rd, three car loads of F.F.A. boys from Clinton County journeyed to Camp Potato in Potter County for a two-day stay to help plant potatoes. They arrived at the camp about 10:30 A. M. As it was too wet to plant at that time, they spent the forenoon picking stones and hauling them on the driveway. After a good dinner Dr. Nixon, assisted by Mr. Wuesthoff, took the boys out to plant seedlings. This was a new and very interesting experience for the boys. During the afternoon the boys planted and recorded more than four thousand seedlings besides several tuber units. When they arrived back at camp the cook had a good supper waiting and needless to say it did not last long. The evening was spent playing softball, swimming, and playing games in the large clubroom. The lights were out at eleven o'clock.

Up bright and early the next morning the boys were out to see the many deer that come in near the camp to find food. After breakfast the boys were divided into two groups. One group ran the potato grader, graded a variety of potatoes, and got them ready to plant, while the other picked stones and built the driveway. After each load of stones the groups changed jobs. In this way all boys got a chance to drive the tractor and do the various jobs in running the potato grader. When the grading was completed the boys had a better understanding of the amount of work necessary to develop a new variety of potatoes. The dinner bell was a most welcome sound. After dinner Dr. Nixon called the boys together in the clubroom and gave them an interesting talk on developing potatoes. He also gave them many good bits of advice as only Dr. Nixon can talk to boys. He told them that the slogan at Camp Potato was "What can we do next?" The question was asked and Dr. Nixon told them that there was one job he would like to have done and that was to put sod around the swimming pool and when that job was done they could start home. With that promise the job did not last long. As they started on the long journey home, the boys all agreed that it was an experience well worth while.

Chief Logan Chapter, Loganton, was represented by A. K. Birth, Adviser, Richard Musick, Glenn Frankenberger, George Orner, George Heckel, and Eugene Bressler.

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J. Rex Haver, County Adviser, was in charge of the group.

(Continued from page 11)

However, it is not the fault of the farmer that they exist. Neither is it the fault of the farmer that they succeed. They have taken good management practices from business and used them without enjoying the full co-operation of business.

Farm co-operatives are the creatures of that indifference and lack of interest which business has had or has taken in agriculture down the years. I firmly believe that unless and until business learns what the problems of agriculture are and extends a hand toward solving those problems the breach will widen and more farm co-operatives will be the result. This brings me to the real problem attending agriculture.

Agriculture has only one major problem today and it took a serious depression for our country to discover it. That problem is distribution, or more specifically, the marketing of farm products on a more efficient and more highly profitable basis.

Dr. William J. Hale, the father of Chemurgy, is authority for the statement that we are cultivating 400,000,000 acres in the country today and that we can produce our annual bodily food requirements on but 100,000,000 acres. Thus, 300,000,000 acres of farm products must find other outlets after the war.

What chemistry, through science and invention, has done to further the industrial revolution and, likewise, what it has done to enable our soil to produce many times the amount of farm produce we can possibly consume, chemistry must now paradoxically help to restore to the farmers of our country their rightful place in the sun. What chemistry must do is effect a practical and concrete co-operation between agriculture and industry by finding many more new uses for farm products in the wheels of industry. This is Chemurgy.

But I shall not discuss Chemurgy except to refer to what we have done at Williamsport, because tonight you are privileged to hear Wheeler McMillan, a real authority, speak on that subject.

Two avenues obviously open up and provide the real solution to the major problem of distribution of farm products, namely, better marketing facilities and chemurgy.

This brings me to the first part of my subject, or Helping Agriculture, and I shall try and tell you how we have applied the matter practically in the Williamsport area. I have said before that farmers need more of the whole dollar that makes up the production-consumption cycle. Dinners by Chambers of Commerce and luncheon clubs with, or for, farmers are fine of themselves but unless they are followed up with something concrete that helps the farmers materially they are just gestures. Too many such events have been held down the years without any real dividends being paid to either farmer or businessman. The farmer creates all new wealth except that which comes out of the mines, and then he spends the fruits of his labors (plus God's sunshine) with the business man. The more he gets for his fruits the more he will spend for the fruits of industry.

Such is our philosophy at Williamsport and it can't be far from being righteous thinking because it is paying dividends in money, increased trade, and good-will and the greatest of these three is the latter, because with good-will established the other two will follow.

Now to this first application of this philosophy. Up to five years ago it had been the normal custom for many years around Williamsport (and this is true generally throughout the country) for farmers to sell their livestock to neighborhood packers or to representatives of larger terminal slaughter houses at whatever prices they could get without a truly competitive market. In so doing the farmers were obliged to pay longer trucking charges, buy extra feed, and absorb added animal shrink, all of which reduce their net income much more than was considered by our agricultural committee.

The remedy lay in providing facilities at home, or in the heart of the trading or livestock supply center, whereby these same farmers could dispose of their livestock, reduce the excessive charges referred to and obtain by a favorable margin more net dollars to spend in the channels of trade. To insure the longer price for their animals, the competitive auction buying arrangement was inaugurated.

A company was incorporated to handle all purchases and sales on a commission basis. The sale is conducted one day or more each week when packers and order buyers bid at auction for

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INTENTIONAL SECOND EXPOSURE

the livestock brought in by hundreds of farmers.

The results are that the farmer receives at least 20 per cent more for the livestock, the retail trade territory is extended, and the community is more self-contained. More purchasing power is given to the farmer. He likes this market which in five years has paid dividends of at least 6 per cent annually, to 250 stockholders of which over half are farmers and the rest businessmen.

Extending this same philosophy we are now organizing a wholesale community produce market which will be a facility where farmers may bring everything else they grow or raise for competitive selling to brokers, commission houses or retailers. Eggs, poultry, fruits and vegetables will thus find an orderly and efficient outlet at higher net returns to the farmers. Thus money will again speak louder than words and the nicest thing about this market, and the livestock market, is that they are corporate business establishments in which businessmen and farmers join together as stockholders, receive cash dividends together, work more closely and profitably together in trade generally and share greater confidences with each other. What finer evidence of a true co-operative could you have than that? Such is our objective all along the line.

Yes, we have held numerous dinners and meetings with our rural neighbors where we exchanged handclasps and learned to know them better. We have sponsored FFA Fairs and Expositions and 4-H Baby Beef and Calf Clubs and thereby helped to inspire the youth on our farms to do better work and to get them all to realize that Williamsport is interested in their welfare. But these events have only been starting points. They have been but means to an end and that end is the creation of facilities for better distribution of these wares at better returns to them.

In the field of chemurgy we have had some success. In early 1938 we urged our farmers to grow soybeans, that miracle crop discovered as such by Henry Ford and other manufacturers. We told them we would help them sell their soybeans. We did this in 1938 and by 1939 we decided to organize marketing facilities close to home for their sale. So a processing plant for extracting the oil from the bean was located at Jersey Shore, 14 miles west of Williamsport. It it operating today and paying the market price to several hundreds of farmers who grow specifically for that plant.

We also organized in 1939 what is now known as the Tom Soya Foods, Inc., a manufacturer and producer of soybean health foods. This company has business men and farmers as shareholders, is buying a considerable quantity of the beans from our farmers and is enjoying a very fine business in the country today.

Finally, in 1939, the Chairman of our Chemurgic Committee which is a subcommittee of our general agricultural extension committee, acquired a rather extensive laboratory which could be used in practicing chemurgy in a practical way. Not only has he helped local industry solve peculiar problems that bear on chemurgy, but he has conducted experiments for some of our large national concerns. One thing he has done is to inoculate the soybean seed with electrical energy so as to expedite its growth in the soil. By giving this bean a "shot in the arm" he has brought about some rather startling results. This laboratory is a decided asset in our progress.

In conclusion, there are three types of communities in the country being served by Chambers of Commerce. They are:

(a) the completely industrialized area with little or no rural or back country;

(b) the area that is half industrial and half rural; and

(c) the almost complete rural area.

You secretaries can decide in which area you are located. Williamsport represents Lycoming County and, in fact, several counties, the total area of which is half industrial and half agricultural. We have had a splendid opportunity to experiment and do the things we have done agriculturally.

I hope I have given you some food for thought on why agriculture should be helped and how we have to some extent met that challenge.

SPRAY "RINGS" ARE AN OLD STORY TO POTTER COUNTIANS

The potato spray group idea first developed in Potter County in 1919 when a group of 23 potato growers near Germania, in Potter County, organized. This group purchased spray materials and a horse-drawn traction sprayer cooperatively. They hired an operator to do the work. Each ten days the operator sprayed the fields of all members.

The cost of the sprayer was divided equally among the members and the cost of the materials and labor was pro-rated among the members in proportion to their acreage. Seventy-four acres were sprayed on the twenty-three farms represented in that first group. Four rows were left unsprayed in each grower's field to determine the value of spraying. The yield was seventy bushels per acre higher on sprayed than unsprayed potatoes. The cost of getting that increased amount of production was $10.45 per acre.

The results obtained by that first group were so satisfactory that in 1920 the County Agent organized six groups in as many different communities in the county. The results this year were equally as good as the previous year.

In 1921 there were 36 such groups in the county. By 1928 165 groups were operating in Potter County, covering 935 farms.

Unsprayed rows were left on one farm in each community to determine the increase in yield each year. The increased yield in bushels due to spraying in the county for the period from 1919 to 1928, inclusive, sold at the market price of potatoes for each year during that period, amounted to over $4,000,000.

The demand for expansion of work in other phases of Agriculture in the County and the feeling that the potato growers of the county were thoroughly sold to the economy of potato spraying, caused a let down in the intensity of the educational program for potato spraying.

By 1936, due to the lack of intensive supervision, spraying had quite largely passed out of the picture. Only two spray groups remained in operation. A large number of growers had gone out of the potato growing business. Many others were struggling along and attempting to get by with less effective methods of blight control. Growers were asking the County Agent, "Why don't we have potato spray groups again?"

Spraying equipment had greatly improved during the decade following 1928. The need of the smaller grower was equipment like larger growers were using so effectively.

Thorough study was made of the types of equipment and the kind of organization that would bring the small growers the most efficient spraying service. Large growers were consulted, specialists in many states were interviewed, equipment manufacturers and engineers were asked for assistance.

In the winter of 1939 it was decided to use a sprayer mounted on a rubber-tired tractor. The type used included a twenty gallon per minute pump with an eight-row spray boom. The spray pump was operated by power-take-off from the tractor.

The type of equipment determined the next problem was to arrive at a form of organization. It was decided to have one man own and operate the equipment as well as to furnish the spray materials. It was also decided he should have a truck or trailer equipped with tanks of at least 1000 gallons capacity to supply water to the sprayer in the fields. A simple form of agreement was worked out which was signed by both grower and the operator.

Having agreed on the type of equipment and a system of organization, a meeting of the growers was held in each of the several communities of the county.

The plans were explained and discussed by the growers. Four communities decided to organize groups. Each selected an operating committee of three members of their group. The duties of this operating committee were to employ a suitable operator and to make necessary arrangements. This committee acted as a board of directors who served as mediators between the growers and the operator during the season.

The price per acre of each application was calculated at $1.50. After careful investigation, it was found that this price should cover the cost and make the

operator a good business if he was industrious. This price was based on a minimum of 150 acres for each outfit of equipment.

Three of the four operators in 1939 found that they had time for more work and increased their acreage to 175 to 180 acres each. The fourth one, being less ambitious, found difficulty in covering the 150 acres. (His equipment was sold to another operator after the first year).

Despite the bad infestation of blight generally over the county. the disease was completely controlled in all sprayed fields. Check rows in three fields showed an increase of 161 bushels per acre for sprayed over unsprayed potatoes. The four sprayers covered 690 acres on 123 farms.

In 1940 four additional groups were organized. In these a heavier tractor was used with a thirty gallon per minute pump and a ten row spray boom. The eight sprayers in 1940 covered 1840 acres on 314 farms.

The sprayers were re-designed for 1940. The tank capacity was increased to 320 gallons, while the 1939 design had only a 200 gallon capacity. Tractors with a wide front axle were specified for 1940. Larger tires were also specified. It was found that the four wheel tractor was better balanced and there was practically no vine injury.

The number of groups operating in the county was increased to 9 in 1941 and to 10 in 1942. Because of the acreage increase asked for in 1932 and because of the need for more sprayers to cover the acreage already planted it is necessary to increase the number to 20 in 1943.

It is expected, according to present organization, that these group sprayers in the current year will cover at least 529 farms and approximately 4600 acres. These groups are virtually organized now and the growers involved are going through the process of having this equipment released for this purpose.

After the weather conditions experienced in 1942, it is quite evident that no sprayer should be expected to cover more than 200 acres. Also, that the application should be made at more frequent intervals. Because of the increased costs of materials, it has been necessary to make a higher rate of pay. Under four acres it is now $2.15 per acre with a minimum charge of $6.45 and $2.00 per acre over four acres.

Through this type of group operation in Potter County we have found that the smallest grower has the use of the same efficient heavy equipment as that used by the large grower. Medium-sized growers are relieved of the heavy investment in equipment. The job of spraying potatoes is done at a lower cost than can be accomplished with individually owned equipment.

The potato crop is sprayed without interfering with harvesting and other work on the farm. The individual farm water supply problem is eliminated since water is brought by truck from convenient sources along the route covered by each sprayer.

The same plan of group operations was adapted to potato planter in 1940. Three planter groups were operated satisfactorily and have continued to operate since that time. Six more of these groups are being organized this year. Two potato digger groups were also organized for the 1940 season. They were also considered satisfactory.

It has been felt that many farm operations can be groups and operated on the same general plan. One advantage discovered was that it is easier to get a proper adjustment on a few machines than on many. Greater efficiency is possible with fewer and expertly trained operators.

Groups of farmers associated and more or less tied together by a common interest are now concerning themselves in many other community activities.

Grading and marketing of potatoes has been started in several communities.

Under the stress of war time economy, this system of group operation on expensive equipment and on community enterprise will affect a very definite saving in man power. It has been quite accurately estimated that the time of at least 300 men will be saved on the potato farms of Potter County by this system during 1943. The growers in a digger group can make a potato picking crew to follow one digger which can dig all the potatoes in one spray group.

We have a firm conviction that there is probably no better adapted way of saving cost and man power and at the same time increasing the production.

VISION...

The founders of the Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers Association didn't fore-see a global war with the resultant scarcity and high cost of burlap, cotton, hampers and other vegetable containers. They did have Vision on a program for the orderly and profitable marketing of the Pennsylvania potato crop. Included in that vision and based on experiments and sound experience was the wise decision to use paper bags exclusively. They knew that only the paper bag guaranteed the minimum in package and packaging costs and the maximum in protection, consumer appeal — and repeat sales.

American made kraft paper and bags are readily available at reasonable prices. Now is the time to eliminate all worries about containers and push "Pecks" big brother — "Fifty Pound" Blue Label.

May We Suggest—

That every grower "take stock" of his bag supply and order his bag needs **early** and in **sufficient** quantities.

Transportation will be most uncertain — therefore make your wants known early — Prices are **still** the same as **last year** and **conditions** are also unchanged.

C. F. H. WUESTHOFF, Gen'l Mgr.
Penna. Co-op. Potato Growers' Assn.
Williamsport, Pa.

VISION

PENNSYLVANIA GROWERS

DEPENDABILITY

INTEGRITY

KNOWLEDGE

TRADE MARK REGISTERED IN U.S. PATENT OFFICE

WANTED:

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Growers can not afford **not to belong** to the Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers Association that has the industry's interest uppermost. Membership includes 12 issues of The Guide Post which keeps you informed on timely marketing, production and regulatory problems.

DON'T PUT IT OFF ANY LONGER—
SOLICIT YOUR NEIGHBOR!

One Dollar ($1.00) does it — One Dollar for a Membership-Subscription

For convenience fill in and mail this Blank Now.

- -

Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers Association
410 Campbell St., Williamsport, Pa.

Gentlemen:

Attached you will find One Dollar for which please enroll

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County .....

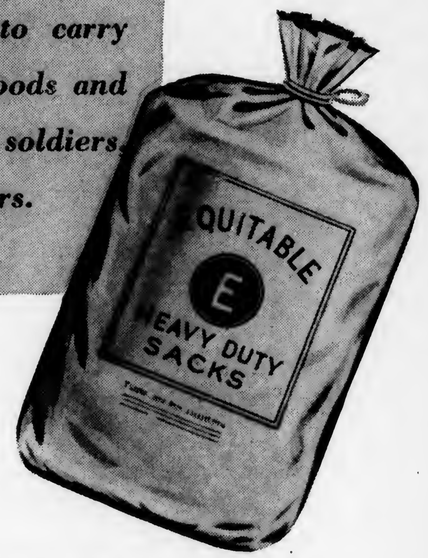
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AGRICULTURAL LIBRARY
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STRONG— Iron Age Boosters

S. T. Strong, Wainscott, L. I., N. Y. operates his 152 acre farm in connection with his father, J. S. Strong of Bridgehampton, L. I. The older Mr. Strong has represented Farquhar Iron Age Equipment in his section of Long Island for a great many years, having sold Iron Age potato planters, sprayers and kid glove diggers.

He is a strong Iron Age booster, and his son is no exception, having used Iron Age steadily throughout his 25 years of farming.

Last year Mr. Strong planted 107 acres of potatoes with the aid of his Iron Age two row automatic potato planter. He keeps his crops in the best condition by using an Iron Age row crop sprayer, which he has had for the past three years. Mr. Strong is definitely well pleased with his sprayer, he particularly likes the way in which adjustments can be made on the main drive.

Production of Iron Age equipment is limited by the war. You can secure vitally needed equipment by applying to your local ration board. To be sure you get the best — specify Iron Age.



Industry's flag of freedom waves in the air above the plants of the Farquhar Company ... presented by the Army and Navy for outstanding production of war material.

Plant and Spray the IRON AGE Way



A.B.FARQUHAR CO., Limited, YORK, PA.

THE GUIDE POST
VISION OF PENNSYLVANIA GROWERS

VOLUME XX NUMBER 7



THE MARKETING ISSUE

JULY — 1943

Published by the

PENNSYLVANIA COOPERATIVE POTATO GROWERS ASSOCIATION

INCORPORATED





POTASH



READY to serve

Recognizing that an efficient use of fertilizers depends upon facts, the American Potash Industry maintains an Institute for investigations in the practical use of potash. This Institute has branch offices in the South, Midwest, Northeast, on the Pacific Coast, and in Canada. Its staff of trained agronomists cooperate with State and Federal institutions in research and experimental work and with growers having specific problems in the use of plant food. This service is supported by the American Potash and Chemical Corporation, Potash Company of America, and the United States Potash Company.

AMERICAN POTASH INSTITUTE
Incorporated
1155 Sixteenth St., N. W. Washington, D. C.

More Potash means More Crops

THE GUIDE POST

published by

The Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers Association, Inc. Williamsport

Volume XX **July, 1943** **Number 7**

A PROSPEROUS POTATO INDUSTRY

Conclusions after 25 years of Experimentation, Demonstration and Observation

DR. E. L. NIXON

A program leading to a profitable potato industry involves a philosophy of **Merchandising** concerned with—

1. Advertising involving—
   a. Merits of the product.
   b. Standardized quality
2. Packages and packing involving—
   a. Identified packages
   b. Trademarking
   c. Consumer packages
   d. Packed by the producer for the consumer
3. Marketing involving—
   a. Dependable supply
   b. Consumer acceptance
   c. Equitable price structure
   d. Cash on the barrel head
   e. Honest dealing
   f. A friendly, but business, understanding between producer and distributor, with the consumer always in mind.
4. Transportation involving—
   a. Assembling for modern streamlined distribution.
   b. Distribution through the shortest route from the farm to the kitchen table.

Merits of the Product

It almost goes without saying that the merits of any advertised commodity should have been thoroughly established before asking the publics' indulgence. There are a lot of "shady" products offered to the farmer through the modern streamlined methods of advertising. There are a lot more worthless commodities offered to the public at large through the present advertising channels, and the significant thing is that the public purchases and the advertising is successful.

If any company, corporation or advertiser had a patent on or controlled the exclusive process of potato manufacturing, the public through a national advertising campaign would become so familiar with the merits of the potato that it soon would be paying four or five times average prices and still be perfectly satisfied.

No potato grower or cooperative potato growers' association need be ashamed of heralding the merits of the potato, —neither as a "health food" it is known to prevent scurvy, acidosis, high blood pressure—nor as a genuine economic food. It is the most digestible of solid foods eaten by man. Even at two dollars and fifty cents per bushel at present food prices, a bushel of potatoes will go farther to satisfy the appetite of a hungry family, furnish more stamina and do it every day and every meal if necessary, than any other food. One never tires of properly prepared potatoes, and gets sick on them even if eaten in great excess. What is needed is an educational campaign on the proper ways of preparing potatoes. This could and should be initiated by home economic workers—State and National — and could and should be adopted by hotel and restaurant associations.

Standardized Quality

The thing which has been publicized most about standardized quality is the

grades. Too often what appeals to the eye does not appeal to the appetite neither when taken from the skillet or pot, nor when eaten in the fresh state. It is strange what a bit of advertising will do for the unsuspecting house wife. It is strange that "color added" will sell more poor fruit than nature's color will sell. It is strange that one of the reddest apples is notoriously the poorest; that the yellowest orange is one of the poorest and the whitest potato (The American Giant) is absolutely the poorest. It is the potato grower's obligation to grow the best potato for human consumption available, See Fig. 1, and so

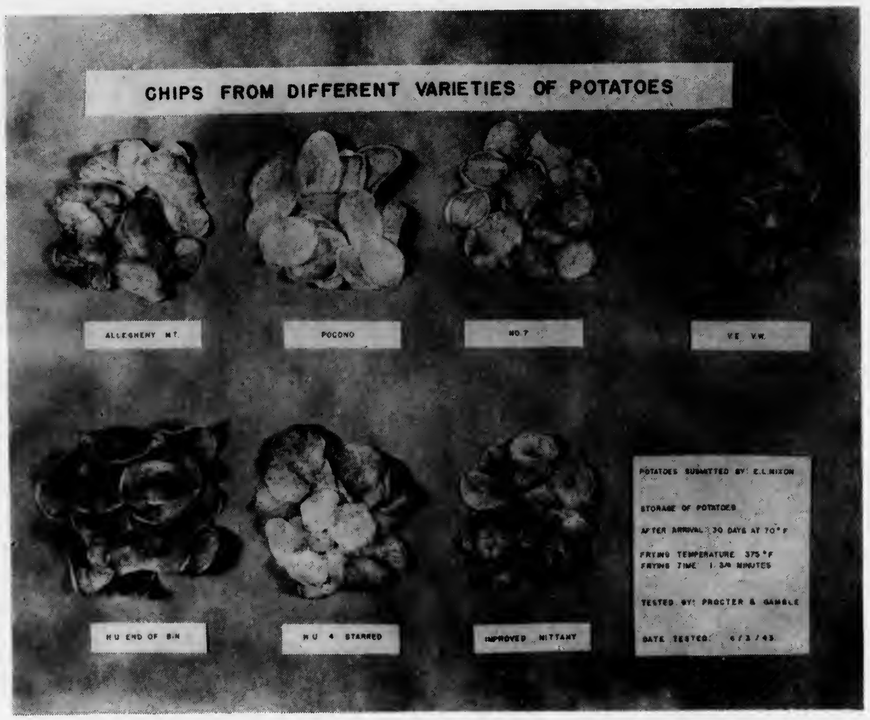


Fig. 1.—In the Potato Grower's Association Breeding Project at Camp Potato, inherent quality is being taken into consideration as well as eye appeal. Note that Pocono and No. 7 are outstanding chippers. All these new seeding varieties have eye appeal and a skin one loves to touch. Out of the skillet there are great differences.

label it. It is his further obligation to produce it as economically as practicable. It is the consumer's obligation to accept this package with as little "frills and color added" as possible for after all the more they are dolled up the more they cost. A lot of good wholesome produce has been put in the luxury class and sold by the piece or dozen when they ought to move by the peck or bushel just because they have been "graded to death." One of the fundamental principles of the Association marketing plan, is, "determine a standard grade high enough to meet exacting demands for all practical consumer acceptance and yet low enough to make the best of our local crops." In none of the seven years has this standard grade changed except to become more dependable. The **"Pennsylvania Blue Label"** has gradually become a standard of quality with the consumer, the merchant and the producer.

In the seven years not a reputable producer has withdrawn from the association marketing plan nor has a single distributor failed to cooperate in popularizing this well nigh famous trade marked brand of potatoes.

A second fundamental principle of the association marketing plan is, "adopting and trademarking a distinctive, practical and attractive pack of a size to meet the widest market demands."

Packed by the Producer for the Consumer

In a recent conference with Rt. Rev. Msgr. Ligutti, Executive Secretary, National Rural Life Conference, he placed the above merchandising principle first. Pride in ones own product is a cardinal principle in which integrity, and dependability are involved. Quality cannot be legislated into a commodity. Personal pride in the product, and not regulation, produces clean milk. Knowledge, integrity, pride in the product, and personal responsibility, and not regulation, produce and deliver dependable seed potatoes. Personal pride in the product, identified packages, personal responsibility that the adopted brand will be



Treva Kimmel buys a trade-marked consumer peck of Pennsylvania potatoes from Thomas Cook, salesman of the produce department, Acme Market, Lemoyne.

guaranteed to the consumer, and not regulation, will give the **Pennsylvania Blue Label Potato** its place in the sun.

Marketing Involving Dependable Supply

It probably goes without saying that a dependable supply of any commodity is indespensable to a successful marketing program. "Beating a path to the door of the proverbial mouse trap builder," was undoubtedly contingent on a dependable supply. I'll bet my bottom dollar that the trap also had to be equitably priced. Such a situation is not good for the potato industry. Consumers of any commodity do not become repeat customers when they have been dealth with unfairly. Neither can they be expected to become repeat customers if there is not a dependable supply of their favored brand (not just potatoes) always available. Pennsylvania potato growers have an added responsibility, this year of all years, of keeping Pennsylvania Blue Label Potatoes on the grocery shelves without a break. Some will say: " I can do much better on the Black Market." Remember black market potatoes like the old 4-8-7 fertilizer container lose their identity. They were packed without personal responsibility or pride in the product. They never built a reputation or caused "any path to be beaten to the doorstep." Both bring the law upon our heads, and the law never made consumer acceptance.

A Friendly Business Understanding Between Producer and Consumer

The Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Grower's Marketing Plan was not designed as a legislative or pressure program. It was designed with the

grades. Too often what appeals to the eye does not appeal to the appetite neither when taken from the skillet or pot, nor when eaten in the fresh state. It is strange what a bit of advertising will do for the unsuspecting house wife. It is strange that "color added" will sell more poor fruit than nature's color will sell. It is strange that one of the reddest apples is notoriously the poorest; that the yellowest orange is one of the poorest and the whitest potato (The American Giant) is absolutely the poorest. It is the potato grower's obligation to grow the best potato for human consumption available, See Fig. 1, and so

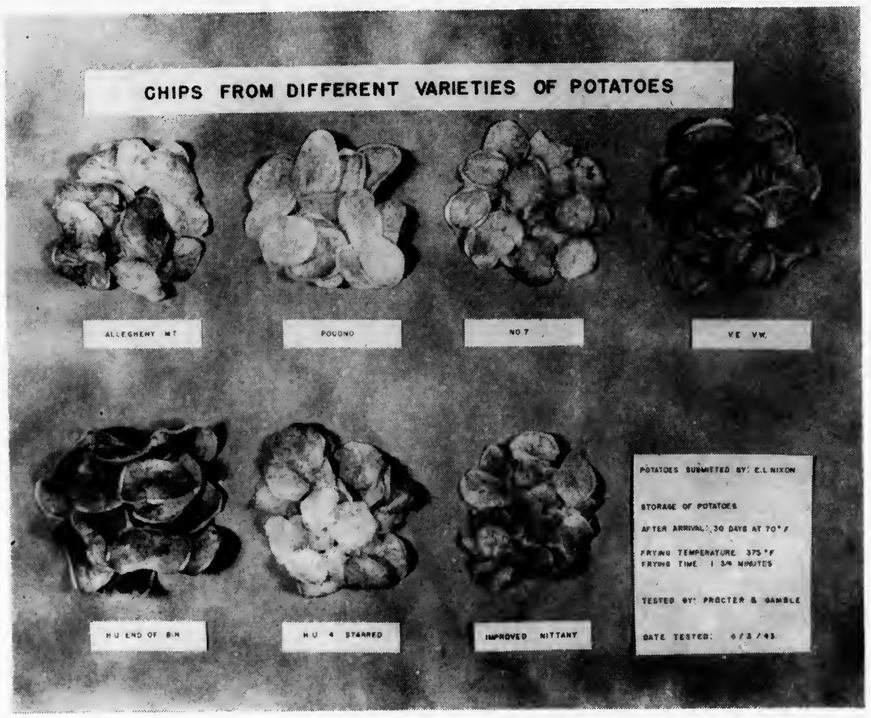


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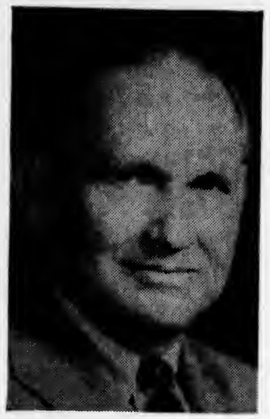
single thought in mind that Farmer—Business man relationship could and should be friendly business dealing—cash on the barrel head, no threats of violence, equitable price structure based on supply and demand and not on supply and manipulations.

Assembling and Transportation have become the major problems of the Association. Direct delivery from the farm to the nearest store has been fifty per cent of the answer. The potato grower's responsibility is to make his crop more available through centralized storage centers to facilitate modern streamlined distribution. This is being done in many areas throughout the state and more will be said about it in a future issue of the Guide Post.

This was all thought of and discussed in the very first conferences in the inauguration of the marketing plan. The last item of the adopted project said, "—set up machinery by which the grading and packing of the adopted brand will be guaranteed to the consumer and **made available in sufficient volume to interest large purchasers!"**

ORGANIZED POTATO MARKETING FACES A CRISIS

R. N. Benjamin, *Exec. Sec., Pennsylvania Farm Bureau Co-operative*



An Organizer and a Real Cooperator

Conditions surrounding the fast-approaching potato-marketing season will apply the acid test to the Co-operative marketing program that has been slowly but soundly developed during the past seven years.

The future of orderly Co-operative marketing of potatoes *depends on how thoroughly the growers understand the importance of what has been accomplished,* and the courage they display at this time in *defending the gains they have made.*

The ultimate end to be sought in any Co-operative marketing program, if it is to render maximum service to both producer and consumer, should be to return to the producer as much as possible of the consumer's dollar spent for that commodity. Of course, there are many other desirable things to be achieved, such as proper grading and packaging of the right quality of produce, but in a sense these are only steps that must be taken in the process of achieving the desired end. The members of the Pennsylvania Co-operative Potato Growers' Association have developed a program outstanding in its accomplishments along these lines, but due to a number of factors the Association now faces its most critical test.

Due to shortages of many lines of food, it seems sure that there will be a strong demand for potatoes. Even though we have what appears to be a bumper crop in the making, price ceilings will further complicate the picture and tend to create an active "black market," especially as the marketing season advances and the first flush of marketing the newly-harvested crop passes.

A lot of inferior potatoes are sure to appear in the picture during September, October and November, coming from the land planted by inexperienced growers, who have planted a few acres without proper equipment and experience to produce a quality crop. It will be "hard medicine" for the real potato grower to take when he sees these inferior potatoes going to market at as high a price as he can legally get for his quality product—and, what is worse, to the "black market" at more than he is permitted to receive. Here is where the test will come, with the answer affecting the potato industry in Pennsylvania for years to come!

One of the most important factors in the successful program you have developed has been the relationship between the grower and the retailer, whereby potatoes marketed by the co-operating growers go direct to the retail stores. *Without this fine Co-operative relationship, there would be small chance for success in your marketing program.* Therefore, it is most important that the growers *stand firm* this year in defense of this program.

If the crop produced this year by the real potato growers, who expect to stay in the potato business, is allowed to go to market through other channels, *the work of seven years has been largely lost.*

If the grower, for the sake of a few cents a bushel saved on grading and packaging, or secured through black markets, diverts his crop from the market so well established, *he surely will pay dearly in the years to come.*

The real potato grower who expects to stay in business year after year constitutes the Army that faces the responsibility of defending the gains already made, and, inasmuch as the best defense usually is the making of a strong offense, *begin now to plan the marketing of more of this year's crop through your Co-operative.*

Now is the *Time* for all *good potato growers* to come to the *Defense* of their *Industry.*

BIG CROP OF POTATOES EXPECTED

A Challenge to Orderly and Economical Marketing

A big crop of potatoes is expected this year, the United States Department of Agriculture reports. The area of 3,363,-100 acres for harvest is 24 per cent over 1942 and 7 per cent more than the ten-year average (1932-41). All sections of the country report larger acreages than last year. Of the important late states, Idaho shows an increase of 45 per cent, North Dakota 32, Michigan 30, Wisconsin 27, California 26, Minnesota 24, Nebraska 25, Maine 23, New York 16, Colorado 15, and Pennsylvania 12.

Potato production for the United States is placed at 434,000,000 bushels which is 17 per cent more than the 1942 harvest and 20 per cent more than the ten-year 1932-41) average. The indicated yield of 129.3 bushels is below the 1942 yield of 136.9 but above the ten-year (1932-41) average of 116.9.

In most of the 30 late states the July 1 condition and acreage indicate a larger total production than in 1942.

Indications are good as of July 16th. There are possible hazards still threatening the final returns. Much can still happen. All reports are being based upon acreages, estimated acreages, large and small. The latter growers are not generally able to spray thoroughly and care for this crop. Too much dependence has been placed upon this grower.

Acreages are indications but do not necessarily portray a true picture of the possible yield. Should the country as a whole produce 434,000,000 bushels for 130,000,000 people, it is nothing to be alarmed about. It means only 3.3 bushels per capita consumption as opposed to 2.8 bushels heretofore. Lend-Lease and the armed forces and shortage of rationed food are still strongly in the picture.

New and Renewal Memberships

Since Last Issue of the GUIDE POST

Sherman Spotts, Beech Creek
J. Alters, Homer City
E. F. Sterk, Wilmington, Del.
William D. Hunsicker, Schnecksville
Lester R. King, Mercer
Harry L. Phillips, Sligo
C. K. Phillips, New Bethlehem
E. L. Phillips, Sligo
C. K. Phillips, Jr., New Bethlehem
John Jensen, Sr., Bear Lake
C. C. Winans, Warren
Carl L. Trexler, Kempton
Joe Miller, Transfer
George Ramm, Lock Haven
Lester P. Whitmire, Butler
M. P. McCloskey, Loganton
Vernon Troyer, Union City
Clayton Troyer, Union City

Association Bag Prices and Ordering Instructions
1943-44 Marketing Season

Specifications (Natural Kraft):

15-pound bags, two wall 60/50-110 wt.

50-pound bags, two wall 70/60-130 wt.

50-pound bags, three wall 50/50/50-150 wt., Wet Strength.

Delivered Prices:

Blue Label 15's (2 wall) $25 per M.
Red Label, 15's (2 wall) $24.50 per M.
Economy 15's (2 wall) $24.00 per M.
Blue Label, 50's (2 wall) $57.00 per M.
Blue Label 50's (3 wall) $63.00 per M.
Unclassified 50's (2 wall) $55.00 per M.

The above are *delivered* prices to any point in Pennsylvania, and include the *wire loop ties* and the Association's *commission.*

Terms:

All Association trade-marked paper potato bags are shipped on a C.O.D. basis. When bags are forwarded by rail, shipments will be made Sight Draft, attached to Bill of Lading; when shipments go forward by truck, arrangements must be made by the consignee to settle for same at destination, either by check (Certified check *not* required) or in cash.

Distribution Points:

Hummel Warehouse Company, Inc., 728-40 North Fifteenth Street, Allentown, Pennsylvania.

Jacob K. Mast Warehouse, Blue Ball, Pennsylvania (On U. S. Route No. 322).

M. P. Whitenight & Sons Warehouse, 700 Market St., Bloomsburg, Penna.

Somerset County Farm Bureau, Co-operative Association Warehouse, South Edgewood Street, Somerset, Penna.

J. Jacobsen and Son, Girard, Penna. Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers Branch Office, Butler, Pa.

Warren County Potato Growers, O. E. Loper, Sec.-Treas., Court House, Warren, Pennsylvania.

All bags released by an authorized representative of the Association, on a bag release order, for pickup at any of the above authorized distributing points will, in all cases, be subject to the above cash terms.

Bag Orders:

All orders for Association trade-marked paper potato bags, for either rail or truck shipments, must clear through the Association Office, 410 Campbell Street, Williamsport, Pennsylvania, phone 2-2046. No exception will be made to this regulation.

When placing orders for bags which are to move by rail, be sure to designate correct shipping address and name and address of the bank through which the draft is to be drawn. When movement is by truck, be sure to have check or cash arranged for when the bags arrive at designated destination.

Payments:

When bags are shipped Sight Draft attached to Bill of Lading, *pay only the amount of the draft.* When bags are shipped by truck, pay either by check (Certified check not required) or in cash. In either instance, when draft or invoice corresponds with the number of bags ordered, and in accordance with the above schedue, *do not pay any additional Collection, Freight, Handling, or Trucking Charges.* Prices quoted are *delivered.*

Packing:

All bags are bundled, wrapped and tied. The 50-pound bags are packed 200 to the bundle, and the 15-pound bags are packed 250 to the bundle.

Ties:

The 50-pound bags will have 200 wire loop ties in a Kraft envelope wrapped with each bundle, and the 15-pound bags will have 250 wire loop ties in a Kraft envelope, wrapped with each bundle.

Additional wire loop ties (5-inch ties, 250 per envelope) and (6-inch ties, 200 per envelope), will be made available at all distributing points and will also be supplied with freight or truck shipments when ordered.

Price:

5" wire Loop Ties, 250 per envelope at 25c per package.

6" wire Loop Ties, 200 per envelope at 25c per package.

Additional Supplies:

The following items will be supplied direct from the Association office, on a C.O.D. basis only, all transportation charges prepaid:

Pistol-Grip Twisters .....$1.25 each

Inspectors' Scales ..... 3.50 each

Should any irregularities occur, contact the Association office, 410 Campbell Street, Williamsport, Pennsylvania, at once. C. F. H. Wuesthoff, Gen'l Manager.

THE NEW WAY

Driver: "Here are your Pennsylvania Potatoes, all ready to hand out, no weighing, no shrinkage, no time lost in packing."



Advance Announcement:

THE PENNSYLVANIA POTATO GROWERS FIELD DAY

A BUSINESS CONFERENCE

"Camp Potato" **Denton Hill, U. S. 6.**

Potter County

SATURDAY, AUGUST 14th

Assembling, Packaging and Marketing the '43 Crop
Discussion leader—Stephen Wetrick, Coatsville

Price Regulations and the Potato Movement
Discussion leader——Wm. Stanton, Washington, D. C.

Efficient Economical Storages
Discussion leader—Ed Fisher, Coudersport

Seed Developments, varieties, sources, possibilities
Discussion leader—Dr. E. L. Nixon, State College

Field Dedications to "The War Effort"
Selection and Coronation of a State "Blossom Queen" for 1943

POTATO MARKETING AND GRADE SUPERVISORS' SCHOOLS

To Train and Retrain Association's Inspectors

Messrs. R. B. Donaldson, Don. James and C. F. H. Wuesthoff of The Pennsylvania State College, Department of Agriculture and the Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers Association respectively, conferred recently in the interest of marketing, grading and packaging potatoes. Tentative plans were laid for the holding of grade supervisors and marketing schools throughout the state. It was agreed that never before was this form of education so important as now since standards and grade experiences of earlier months have been most lamentable. Victory Grade and Field-Run potatoes appeared on the markets with disastrous effect upon the industry. Buyers, distributors and agency officials learned a lesson not soon to be forgotten. The consensus of opinion is that they'll have no more of it. Growers have too much at stake to allow themselves to abandon the methods they have found so necessary to equitable marketing. The labor situation might tempt one to move "off stuff" but who pays?—nobody but the man in the business as a business. This type or grade of potatoes must be sold cheap—it is very apt to set a price basis in surrounding communities threatening to jeopardize a price structure that has taken months and years to establish. Let's not be fooled—the buyer of "off-grade" will regrade his purchase but can only afford to do this if he buys *low*. That *low* is the established price for the community.

Who loses? Not the buyer of these potatoes, depend upon it.

Experience over years and particularly this spring in southern states, show that it is expensive to transport anything but acceptable quality. Our transportation facilities are taxed to the limit so why tax them further with inferior merchandise? Our consumers have learned to differentiate between a quality and border-line or questionable grade. They will perhaps buy—but at what cost.

The backbone of any marketing system is a training program whereby growers are made acquainted with standards and are given actual practice and experience in doing the job itself. It is agreed that every grower should know U. S. No. 1 potatoes. He should know what actually makes up this grade. What is permissible and what cannot be tolerated in a quality package. Tolerances are allowed in every package not for grower to meet but allowed on the basis of human error.

The Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers Association, The Pennsylvania State College and the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture agree to the need of maintaining standards and to that end will cooperate in conducting approximately 18 schools. These schools will have a double purpose in that not only will every grade supervisor be given an opportunity to retrain but opportunities will be given to those newcomers (men or women) wishing to join the ranks of the qualified. Extension representatives will do the educational work involved, the Department of Agriculture will qualify those interested with the State Growers Association issuing the proper license and stamp for use solely on the association trade-marked package.

Tentatively, meetings will be held in the following counties, the actual farms or warehouses have not yet been decided upon: Warren, Erie, Mercer, Venango, Clarion, Indiana, Somerset, Cambria, Potter, Lycoming, Columbia, Union, Northampton, Lehigh, Lancaster, York, Chester, Schuylkill and Centre. This information will be sent out in good time so that everybody interested may attend. It is the committee's intention to locate these meetings as conveniently as possible to growers in surrounding areas, for instance, the meeting in Cambria should include perhaps growers from Blair and Clearfield. Obviously it will be impossible to hold sessions in every county although every effort will be made to cover the growing areas.

The primary intention of the cooperating organizations is to maintain Pennsylvania's reputation and to steadily if possible improve the quality of our product. The added intentions will be to discuss the marketing program from the standpoint of markets, packaging, transportation, OPA regulations, etc.

"FROM THE MOUNTAIN TOP"

By OWEN L. BARKLEY, *Ass't. Mgr., Somerset Farm Bureau Cooperative*



"The Kneppers"—Grading and Packaging Blue Label Potatoes on the Mountain Top.

"By golly, it ain't right! You know, I brought a couple of bags of potatoes along to town tonight and had a deal of a time selling 'em. When I asked the store keeper how much he was a payin' for "spuds" this week, he told me he couldn't allow me very much for them. He had the "guts" to say that there was some rotten ones and number twos in the bag and that it wouldn't do no good to put 'em in the store that way because my bags wasn't clean either. Them bags were OK. They might of been a layin' around the chicken house for a couple a weeks but they still held potatoes and I put all the little ones in the bottom of the sack. No one would of seen them there anyhow. By golly, it ain't right! *Somebody ought to do sumpin' about it but farmers can't and won't stick together to do nuthin'* Here I am workin' off my fool head and what do I get out of it. Nothin'! What is a guy gonna do?"

He who spoke these words might have been any of the countless hundreds of men who tilled the soil before the dawn of the new era of agricultural activities and co-operation. Utter those words now and we'll answer you. We'll tell you that even as you said, "It ain't right" it wasn't right. But who was in error? You, or the merchant upon whom you wished to unload the fruits of your labor in an unscrupulous manner. You must assume a portion of the responsibility for that type of transaction yourself. You didn't give him the quality product that he demanded and he did not return to you the price to which you thought you were entitled.

Speak again those words "Somebody ought to do sumpin' about it" and we'll answer that someone did do something about it. No, it was not a celebrated hero from some far off Utopia. It was men like you—farmers, those who are close to the soil, to nature and to God, men who visualized the fact that all men to enjoy the privilege of liberty must co-operate together, trying to get ahead *with the other fellow* rather than ahead of him. Yes sir, someone did do something about it.

Send again your cry of "Farmers *can't* and *won't* stick together to do

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INTENTIONAL SECOND EXPOSURE

nuthin' out over the countryside and from every mountain top it will rebound and echo back to you, laughing at you and bringing with it the voices of thousands of little farmers who will tell you that they *could* and *did* stick together, transacting their own business, buying together through their own co-operatives and selling the products of their labor, the fruits of their fields, through co-operative agencies which they own and control, working together as one family, asking favor from none and enjoying not mere existence but *life* as their Creator willed that they should enjoy it.

"Those words bring a wonderful feeling to me," you say, but just specifically what and where has good been accomplished? What definite problems are being solved?

Let us look at the little county of Somerset, nestled on a plateau between two mountains on the southern boundary of Pennsylvania. Somerset Countians, who have long since been known as the "Frosty Sons of Thunder," are a good people, descendent from pioneering men who daringly advanced some centuries ago into what was then a mountainous wilderness to establish for themselves, their children and their posterity a habitation in which they would be free; free to act and do, free to worship and to work, free to live and to cherish.

Somerset Countians are not unmindful of the privations that were imposed upon their ancestry. The spirit of the pioneer and his love of freedom are yet much alive on this mountain plateau. It is not unnatural that here, where men once learned to work together to survive the dangers that lurked in the untamed forests, that even now that spirit of co-operation is likewise still alive. Taking the natural spirit of helpfulness together with the love of freedom that exists we see the foundation as well as the secret of the success of co-operative activities in that County! For does not the Co-operative offer an opportunity in pioneering? Does it not afford a means of relief from financial dependency? Does it not offer a means that will lead to freedom from want?

Just a few short years have passed since the Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers' Association, together with the Somerset Farm Bureau Cooperative, began to work with the potato producers of Somerset County in developing a marketing program in that county. During this short period of time much has been accomplished. He whose farm permits him to grow only a few potatoes stands side by side with his neighbor who produces thousands of bushels. Both have a common interest, a common goal. Through their Cooperatives they are able to realize a more just and equitable return from the products of their land. They are not dependent upon someone else to sell their potatoes for them. They do their own marketing through their own associations. "Farmers in business," you say, "that is unthinkable."

Make that statement to any of the several hundred farmers who during the past season sold their potatoes together and they'll laugh at you and tell you that far too long farmers had depended on someone else to sell their crops for them and that now they're doing it themselves and doing a fine job. They'll tell you that last year the small farmer and big farmer, the man with 100 bushels and the man with 100 times more, by working together, distributed from their fields to cities near and far almost *half a million packages* of potatoes. Ask them how they were able to sell potatoes in far distant cities, ask them how they were able to transport them to market when they were sold. Ask them anything you wish and they'll tell you that by working with their neighbors in their own Cooperative Association they have found that few things that they sincerely wish to accomplish are impossible. Ask the little man who was, perhaps, unable to own his own grading equipment how he was able to package his crop and he will tell you that his cooperative made that equipment available for his use. Ask him how the consumers liked his potatoes and he will tell you that they bought with confidence and paid him a little more money than he would otherwise have received because they realized that in the Blue Label package they were receiving potatoes that were packaged under the supervision of licensed inspectors. Ask him what he will do with his crop next year and he will tell you that it will be sold again through his cooperative.

Yes, Somerset County farmers have learned to work with one another, they know that they can "stick" together and as they scan the horizon and look at the picture of things yet to come they can see rising the hopes of an even brighter tomorrow for themselves and their posterity, a picture that they might not see if they had been afraid to pioneer in Cooperatives.

POTATO TRENDS IN WARTIME

By Wm. R. Whitacre and R. B. Donaldson

The marketing of Pennsylvania potatoes has been confused and complicated during the past season by conditions arising from the war, such as price ceilings, subsidies, lack of adequate transportation, and "black markets." Prospects for the coming season are somewhat uncertain. Many of the anticipated marketing problems will be determined by the size and quality of the late crop, both for Pennsylvania and for the late producing states, as a whole.

Progress in potato marketing started during the last World War, and despite existing handicaps the same far-reaching benefits will undoubtedly result from the present war. During World War I the Food Administration asked the United States Department of Agriculture to develop standard grades for potatoes and later requested all handlers of potatoes to operate on the basis of these grades. These standards have been developed and revised during the past 25 years until today practically all trading is on the basis of Federal grades. Price ceilings, however, since they have not effectively differentiated between various grades, have tended to remove the incentive to pack potatoes in conformity with established grades.

The war will bring about changes in the industry far more quickly than they would otherwise occur. For example, there was a recognized need for grades and market information prior to 1917, but the war provided the stimulus for the establishment of grades, together with an inspection and a market news service. The merchandising program of the Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers' Association was a further development based upon changes in the industry arising from World War I.

One of the changes in the potato industry which is occurring is the development of dehydration. No one knows the far reaching effect that it may have, but together with other developments it may completely change our present methods of marketing and distribution.

Growers should not confuse temporary conditions arising from the war with basic trends. What are some of the trends in potato marketing that affect the Pennsylvania farmer? One of the most striking has been toward smaller and lighter packages. Prior to 1917 the majority of commercially-produced Pennsylvania potatoes rolled to market by rail in bulk shipments. The stock was generally ungraded and the dealer who purchased them had the privilege of sorting out the culls and accepting only the best stock. The dealer sacked the potatoes in the car and the off-grade tubers were thrown out the car door in piles. These piles sometimes were as high as the floor of the car and represented a large loss to the growers.

Later the 165-pound burlap sack became the common container and the next step was the 150-pound sack. This was the most popular container for a number of years, but it was bulky, heavy and hard to handle. Maine and other late states started to use the 120-pound or two-bushel sack and then later reduced this to the 100-pound container. It is probably that the majority of potatoes produced in this country still go to market in 100-pound sacks. There has, however, been a trend toward smaller units and 50- and 60-pound bags of burlap, cotton and paper have become increasingly popular. In addition, in Pennsylvania, Maine and other late crop producing areas, there has been a widespread use of the consumer package holding 15 to 10 pounds. Extreme scarcity, or government regulation, may upset the situation temporarily, but basically the trend is toward the small package.

There was the old farmer who noticed, while riding down a lonely road the other night, a young couple sitting in a parked car. The young man had a bottle in one hand and a girl in the other. "Harumph," said the farmer, "that must be one of them bottlenecks."

Another trend which has gone along with the change in the size of package has been the improvement in the appearance of the potato contained in the package. Washing and brushing of potatoes is one evidence of this change. Last spring some districts shipped the so-called "Victory Grade" which after all may be field-run stock. Perhaps conditions may arise that would justify the packing of such a grade in second-hand containers, but if this is the case, it should be considered only as a temporary expedient resulting from the war.

The reputation of Pennsylvania potatoes has improved in recent years and the trade-marked package has become a most reliable indication of its contents. Pennsylvania potatoes frequently outsell competitive stocks on our markets. This improvement in the quality of the package has been due to the efforts of growers, and to the joint efforts of such agencies as the Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers' Association, The Pennsylvania State College, and the United States and Pennsylvania Departments of Agriculture.

A program for the Pennsylvania potato growers for the coming season includes a continuation of this kind of cooperation. War-time conditions have brought out more clearly the interdependence of farmers and it will be necessary for Pennsylvania growers to hold together in a strong organization if they are to keep the program which has been made in the past, and continue to advance.

EMERGENCY FARM LABOR PROGRAM

C. P. LANG, *Agricultural Extension Service*

Responsibility for organizing and directing an emergency farm labor program has been assigned by Congress to the Agricultural Extension Service. Emergency Farm Labor Committees composed of farmers, business men, and school authorities have been set up in each county of Pennsylvania to advise with county agents in the conduct of the program. In the majority of the counties in Pennsylvania a Farm Labor Assistant has been employed to assist the County Agent with this work.

Information is being secured from farmers on their labor needs and plans made to recruit as much help as it is possible to find. The armed forces and industry have drained the pool of skilled farm labor to a considerable extent. It will be impossible to find and make available the skilled help which farmers in the past have used. A small number are being released from the armed forces, and a few are going into agriculture from non-essential occupations. These do not begin to fill the demand. The pool of labor left largely consists of women, non-farm school youth, urban people who are willing to work part time or during vacation periods, and workers in industry who may work part time.

The use of such people on farms calls for the farmer to have an understanding of and a sympathy for their inexperience, plus the ability to teach them to do the work as efficiently as possible in the way he wants it done. In other words, he must know how to "teach a person to do a job" efficiently, quickly and with as little danger to himself or to the tools and machinery he uses as possible.

This is no easy task for a farmer already overburdened with demands on his time, but it ought to be done as far as possible and the help available used in the spirit in which it is offered.

The County Agent and Farm Labor Assistant, guided by the advice and counsel of the Farm Labor Committee, will do all in their power to bring together farmers who need help and persons who are willing to work. The details as to time, hours and wages are to be worked out by the individuals concerned.

Many civic organizations, service groups, and youth serving organizations or agencies have offered to help. Used correctly this could be made to bring about an understanding and cement a friendship between rural and urban groups.

In a number of critical areas it is planned to set up work camps to house workers who will go daily to farms within reasonable driving distance. These workers will be recruited in areas that may have a surplus and moved into a county during the peak need.

The program has been decentralized, thus, leaving to each county the determination of its needs and plans for meeting them.

Now, specifically, what can the individual potato grower or association of potato growers do?

1. Talk over the labor situation with the local County Agent and Farm Labor Assistant.
2. Discuss the labor situation at your meeting, perhaps asking the County Agent or Farm Labor Assistant to be present.
3. Estimate your needs as far in advance as possible.
4. Exhaust all possible local resources first.
5. Contact local organizations, such as civic and business clubs, service clubs, youth-serving organizations, school authorities, and Boards of Education through the County Agent or Labor Assistant.
6. Help work out local details in sections where camps are to be established.
7. Treat the help you can get as you would want to be treated if you were in a strange place and had an unfamiliar job.
8. Where possible, exchange machinery and help with your neighbor.
9. Ask the County Agent or the Labor Assistant to arrange for a job instruction training meeting to help teach farmers how to teach unskilled persons.

Try it real fast—

A skunk sat on a stump. The skunk thunk the stump stunk and the stump thunk the skunk stunk.

Well dressed man, cigar in hand, falling through the air from an airplane: "Gad, that wasn't the washroom after all."

Last nite I held a little hand,
So dainty and so sweet.
I thought my heart would surely break,
So wildly did it beat.
No other hand in all the the world
Can greater solace bring,
Than the sweet hand I held last nite—
Four aces and a king.

PENNSYLVANIA POTATO GROWERS

In War as in Peace, Potatoes Form a Substantial and Important Part of the Diet of America. As Potato Growers you are Playing an Important Part in the War Effort. We Salute You.

HAMMOND Better Bags WELLSBURG, W.VA.

HAMMOND BAG & PAPER CO.

WELLSBURG, W. VA.

THE GUIDE POST

Published monthly by the Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers,' Inc.

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We Have Kept Faith

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"Shipments of potatoes for the entire country during the week ending June 26 were 7220 cars as compared with 6000 cars, an average volume recently, and from 1900 to 2000 cars during the later part of April when the shortage of potatoes was most acute. Barring serious crop damage from weather, the supply of potatoes is expected to be ample for consumer requirements until the size of the 1943 late potato crop, which has just been planted, can be determined definitely.

"This sudden change from scarcity to large supplies is typical of many fruits and vegetables. The shortage last April and May was due in part to frost which damaged and delayed the maturity of the early potatoes from the extreme southern states. But as the harvest began to move into the so-called 'intermediate states,' the normal volume of potatoes began to flow to market. Then in late June we had potato supplies well above normal consumption.

"Contrary to reports of price increases, the new ceilings for potatoes for July continue on the level which has prevailed in the intermediate states during June and make reductions from these prices during August and September. Under these ceilings retail prices to consumers should not exceed 4 per cent.

"Consumers can help growers as well as themselves by increasing their use of this splendid, but perishable. food while supplies are so abundant and prices are so reasonable. Retailers have been quick to respond to requests from growers' groups to feature potatoes and other vegetables when available in plentiful quantities so that we make the best use of our perishable food supply and prevent waste of it.

"Consumers with potatoes growing in Victory gardens should not dig them at the earliest date possible, but should allow the crop to fully mature so as to secure the yield of potatoes which can be held for later use. In this way the largest amount of food can be secured from the Victory garden and much can be held for future consumption.

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WILL WE HAVE sufficient efficient help during HARVEST?

AGRICULTURAL LIBRARY



Ready and willing to assist in the harvest. Left to right, George Kane, Jim Carrier, Clyde Swartz, Prop., Floyd Yearick, Frank Ray.

Harvest Help

Getting Down to Brass Tacks

The Swartz Machine Shop of Bellefonte has one of the most complete "set-ups" of its kind in central Pennsylvania. Normally employing 7 to 9 men, this shop has lathes, drill presses, screw machines, forges, etc. During the past 18 months they have assisted in the machine shop training of 150 men and women. They specialize in repairing machinery for farmers within a radius of twenty miles. They are interested in agriculture and appreciate the plight the farmer is in from the standpoint of labor and have suggested that proprietors volunteer their services and the services of their men after regular hours, Saturday afternoon and Sundays if need be. Goups such as these, though small, will help bring in that harvest. It might be wise of growers to spot outfits such as these in the event that they are needed. Personally, I believe it will become necessary in some areas to close down the shops, transport workers to critical spots if the harvest is to be completed before freezing and wet weather sets in.

Association Directors Visit Washington

One of the most important decisions made at the recent session of directors of this association was that of conferring with OPA officials at Washington. The directors unanimously decided that the Office of Price Administration should be made fully acquainted with our cooperative marketing system and should be shown how price ceilings might very easily undo years of tireless cooperative effort. It was planned that the entire board attend this conference. Arrangements were duly made to discuss potato price ceiling with William Stanton of the Vegetable Division of the Office of Price Administration and his assistants. Our reception was most gratifying. Mr. Stanton and his assistants were most open-minded in their attitude and appreciated the stand of this cooperative. We insisted that there was not a sufficient differential allowance to justify grading and packaging.

Increased costs of production, costs of harvesting, costs of grading, costs of packaging and costs of transportation all were thoroughly discussed so that OPA might appreciate the Pennsylvania growers' viewpoint. It seemed very evident that package differentials were hardly proportional to other services.

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INTENTIONAL SECOND EXPOSURE

AREA MARKETING CONFERENCES

Definite and Specific Problems to be Considered

Six Marketing Conferences in as many areas of the state beginning Sept. 8 are being planned. Distributors, Store managers, growers and Potato growers offices will get together for the friendly business like discussion of existing and anticipated problems pertaining to the economical marketing of Pennsylvania's 1943 potato crop. The following schedule has been tentatively arranged:

Eastern area—Sept. 8 at Allentown.
North eastern area—Sept. 15 at Scranton
South western area—Sept. 22 at Butler
South eastern area—Sept. 29 at York
South central area—Oct. 5 at Altoona
North western area—Oct. 12 at Erie

Heretofore several state wide conferences were held annually which proved most satisfactory and yet since they covered so much territory the problems presented of necessity had to be quite general in nature. It is the thought that the discussions this year would be centered about problems of definite interest to growers and distributors in their respective area and that generalities would be reduced to a minimum. Contactmen, growers, Agency experts, local and state association representatives and local Chambers of Commerce members, together with buyers, distributors, store managers, city officials will be invited to attend.

THE POTATO BLOSSOM QUEEN

Competition—Selection and Coronation Plans

1943 BLOSSOM QUEEN



Iola Howard, Shinglehouse, Potter County's Pride

The Annual selection and coronation of a Potato Blossom Queen has contributed a valuable service to growers throughout the state. It is a splendid medium for conveying the idea of the importance of the potato industry to the general public, then too it is an added inspiration for Potato minded people. Young and old are interested in the project and can see clearly how fine a project this outstanding event has become. Potato growers, friends of potato growers, distributors and consumers are always anxiously awaiting the annual selection.

Iola Howard of Shinglehouse our 1942 queen has contributed much to the industry through her splendid cooperation, her friendly personality and tact. Her presentation Sept. 15 at our Annual State-wide Marketing Conference was a high light of the day. Every newspaper of the state ran articles and pictures of the event. Her presentation at Sunbury and remarks over radio hook-up were effective indeed. Confidentially she even knew her varieties, that is she had her preferences. Due to war conditions we were forced to curtail further plans. It was considered inadvisable to follow through. It is hoped conditions will permit an extended tour in the interest of popularizing the potato the number two food this coming season.

Continued on Page 19

DISTRIBUTOR COOPERATION

Weekly News Letter Also Good for the Producer

The following are excerpts from the Agricultural Bulletin mailed to all members of the National Association of Food Chains. This service eminates regularly from the association's agricultural counsel, C. B. Denman, Washington, D.C. It seems to be a worthwhile service to the definite advantage of producers, distributors and consumers.

To All Members:

POTATOES ARE PLENTIFUL AGAIN

Governmental agencies appeal for Help

Some four months ago table stock potatoes went on a vacation from the grocery store, and now they are returning accompanied by a big family which was raised which they were away.

The Department of Agriculture Crop Report of July 9, based on prospects as of July 1, indicates a crop of approximately 435,000,000 bushels—17% up from last year, and 20% more than the ten-year (1932-41) average.

With wartime demand and purchasing power, past production figures are not so important; but 435,000,000 bushels will assure plenty of potatoes for all; and this volume will challenge all marketing factors to prevent loss of some of this "No. 2 Staff of Life" food item.

During the past two weeks, appeals came to your association from producers and Governmental agencies for help to move unusually heavy loadings of early potatoes from some sections. Due to late maturity in these areas, lack of labor to properly handle, and shortage of ice to properly cool shipments, two things happened: Loss from spoilage was terrific; the Government bought heavily to support prices.

But now the quality is better, with markets supplied, and consumers will be able to enjoy this old standby as often as they wish.

Many consumers still think of potatoes as scarce and high priced. This presents opportunity to increase sales and recover this dormant market by advertising and promoting potatoes—by telling consumers that **potatoes are now both plentiful and economical.**

We suggest that all companies push potatoes. Ask for top quality and proper handling. Watch for the effect of nearby production on your demand.

The following is part of today's Betty Brownell's Home Economics Bulletin—To all members:—The Treasury Department wants **every American to Buy $1 extra in War Stamps in July to build the Mystery Ship, Shangri-La. A saving of 25c per week per person will build Shangri-La.**

Potatoes suddenly seem to be everywhere!

POTATO BLOSSOM QUEEN

Continued from Page 18

Selection Plans

Selection and coronation plans will be carried out during the annual field day conference Aug. 14th. The committee feels that the entire state should compete and therefore wish here to ANNOUNCE that all counties should have representation. Potato growers' daughters between the ages of 16 and 20 are eligible to compete for this singular honor.

In this war time long dresses need not be worn by prospective 1943 candidates in fact the young ladies are urged to BE THEMSELVES in appropriate field day attire. The evening clothes attire will come later, perhaps.

Important judges from various civic and service organizations have been selected to make the decisions as to who might best further popularize Pennsylvania's $40,000,000 Potato Industry.

ATTENTION GROWERS:—Make sure that you have several contestants in the Annual Blossom Queen competition. No entry blanks, no registrations. Just be sure to have YOUR CHOICE on hand—August 14th.

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Continued from Page 18

Selection Plans

Selection and coronation plans will be carried out during the annual field day conference Aug. 14th. The committee feels that the entire state should compete and therefore wish here to ANNOUNCE that all counties should have representation. Potato growers' daughters between the ages of 16 and 20 are eligible to compete for this singular honor.

In this war time long dresses need not be worn by prospective 1943 candidates in fact the young ladies are urged to BE THEMSELVES in appropriate field day attire. The evening clothes attire will come later, perhaps.

Important judges from various civic and service organizations have been selected to make the decisions as to who might best further popularize Pennsylvania's $40,000,000 Potato Industry.

ATTENTION GROWERS:—Make sure that you have several contestants in the Annual Blossom Queen competition. No entry blanks, no registrations. Just be sure to have YOUR CHOICE on hand—August 14th.

INTENTIONAL SECOND EXPOSURE

THE JUNIOR-GUIDE POST

Pennsylvania Junior Cooperative Potato Growers Assn.

OFFICERS

Leo H. Stout, Shinglehouse..President
Calvin M. Will, Somerset..V.-President
Daniel W. Keener, Neffs.....Secretary
Harold Henninger, Allentown
Treasurer

DIRECTORS

Calvin M. Will.....Somerset, Somerset
John Wallas ....New Castle, Lawrence
Harold Holmes .....Waterford, Erie
Samuel Holubec.....Bellefonte, Centre
Leo Rouzer.....Laidig, Fulton
Leo H. Stout.....Shinglehouse, Potter
Daniel W. Keener.....Neffs, Lehigh
James Helwig.....Catawissa, Columbia
Harold Henninger
Catasaugua, Northampton

Annual Membership—$1.00 which includes 12 issues of The GUIDE POST.

Single Copies—25c.

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GENIUSES

There may be some naturally born geniuses, but they are few. In most cases the word "genius" is composed of one part hooey and nine parts hard work. Determination and perseverance carry far more men to success than natural aptitude or "pull."

FACTS ABOUT POTATOES:

Potatoes are plentiful—a bumper new crop now on the market.

Potatoes are economical—eat liberal quantities.

New potatoes will not keep — they must be eaten or go to waste.

Potatoes are nutritious.

Potatoes contain Vitamins—A, B, C, and G.

Potatoes contain Minerals — Calcium, Phosphorus and Iron.

Potatoes supply energy.

Potatoes are good at the most luxurious banquet or the simplest meal.

Potatoes are erroneously thought to be very fattening.

New potatoes are delicious and healthful, whether boiled, scalloped, in cream, sauted, or in combination with other food—salads, stews, etc.

JUST MARRIED



Mahlon King, 1942 Champion Potato Picker, "Passes the Spud" to one Agnes Wingard (now also a King), of Boswell, Somerset. Little did Director Lohr realize that he was virtually retaining Potato Picking honors for his county or did he? Now there will be a real potato picking rivalry, it doesn't seem right that Somerset County should retain this honor forever. However, wish you happiness, no end.

"War-Time Business Session"

A War-time field day for men young and old in the Business of Potato Production is to be held on August 14th. A program including timely discussion of war restrictions, food storage and 1944 seed sources will be held. This program involves some inspection touring of seed fields, variety development, storage house construction. Listening to authorities and observing the practical is an ideal set-up for worth while and lasting results.

Secondary perhaps to the business program will be the annual selection and coronation of the Potato Blossom Queen. Candidates will hail from every county in the state and will be limited to growers daughters between the ages of 16 and 20. Each growing area should be represented. This is a project for county potato growers associations and an opportunity to publicize their county as well as their states industry.

Teaching Cooperation The Practical Way



Harold and Robert Jones of the Stoneboro Chapter spraying the eleven acres of Katahdin and Russet potatoes of Lester R. King, new association member.

Junior Potato Growers of the Stoneboro F.F.A. Chapter are most cooperatively minded. Even before the present war emergency these young men were interested in many group activities not for the doing alone but for the lessons and principles involved in the doing. The way to teach cooperation and its fundamental principles is to think and act according to the precepts involved. Functional and worthwhile teaching necessitates active participation. Lee Mohney, agricultural instructor in the Stoneboro High School appreciates these truths and does something about them.

The major 1943 group project of this particular chapter is the operation of a community spray ring managed and operated by to 15 year old young men, Robert and Harold Jones of Stoneboro, R. D., Juniors in High School under the supervision of the adviser instructor.

The job they are attempting involves the maintenance and operation of a new Farmal M. Tractor and a Hardie 300 gallon sprayer with a power take-off. They have contracted for the spraying of 106 acres within a radius of 15 miles. They also are conducting a 4 acre potato production project, having rented a good piece of land and secured high quality seed. This is an ideal way to learn potato production first hand. There is no substitute—lectures, readings, reports, etc., will go only so far.

In addition to the above this Stoneboro Chapter of 35 young men is successfully managing and operating a 21 acre apple orchard, operating a 2500 egg incubator, selling garden and field seed and fertilizer. This chapter has contributed 6,000 hours to the harvest emergency of 1942 and several thousand more hours to the spring planting of the 1943 crops.

It was recently reported that this chapter in addition to its numerous cooperative activities has found time to encourage the organization of the Western F.F.A. Hampshire Swine Association. Many purebred Hampshire gilts of outstanding conformation and breeding have been imported into Mercer County through this newly formed organization. The boys hope to establish a center from which hog growers of this state can secure good foundation stock.

Editor's Note: We believe more activities such as those mentioned above will not only teach cooperation through cooperating with each other but that the community itself will be materially richer. We wish to whole heartedly compliment this Chapter's officers and advisers. President Wm. Farlamb, Secretary, Robert Philson, Local Adviser, Lee Mohney, and Area Adviser, A. C. Sproat.

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INTENTIONAL SECOND EXPOSURE



Refilling the 300 gallon tank in but a few minutes. Left to right—Instructor L. Mohney, H. Jones, Supervisor, A. C. Sproat and Robert Jones.

FOR SALE: Several set Aprons for two row level bed John Deer continues Apron Potato Digger, also one new point, and clutch fittings, as well as other new repairs for above digger. Address Box 96 Fairview, Erie County, Pa.

FOR SALE—Cletrac E D_2-62 Diesel Tractor. Excellent Shape, 1940 Model.—J. L. Reitz, Lewisburg, Pa.

ANNOUNCING . . .

THE NEW AUTOMATIC VICTORY POTATO BAG HOLDER

The Victory Bag Holder that Will Save You Time and Labor When Packing Your 50 Pound Paper Sacks.

FOR COMPLETE DETAILS WRITE THE

VICTORY BAG HOLDER

46-29 Douglaston Parkway, Douglaston, Long Island, New York

WORKING ON THE FARM

Suggestions for Urban Young People

You have volunteered to do some farm work this year as your share in helping produce the food that will be needed. This will be a new experience for some of you.

There are many things you'll need to know and keep in mind if you are to enjoy your experience and make a worth-while contribution. Here are a few suggestions which should ease your task of adapting yourself to the new condition under which you will find yourself.

Some of you will be living in the farm family, some may be in farm camps, and some will work by the day, living at home. Your value may depend not so much on what you already know as on what you are willing to learn and the attitude you bring to your work.

BEFORE YOU GO

1. Get proper clothes, work shoes, slacks, denim, or something that will stand hard use. Mark them with identification tags.

2. Have a definite understanding as to hours of work, wages, time to be paid, time off, etc. This will save argument and misunderstandings later on.

3. Read up on farm life, get books from library, read farm papers, etc.

4. In case some training for farm work is planned in your community or school, take advantage of it.

DOING THE JOB

Of course, the main reason you're on the farm is to help get the work done. Each farm is a little world of its own; no two are exactly alike. Each farmer has his own way to do things. In no other occupation are you so much at the mercy of the weather. Plans are often changed overnight and even during the day. There will be something new to learn all the time.

1. If you don't know—ask questions. The farmer will soon catch on if you try to "bluff."

2. Take an interest in your work. If you're willing to learn and show you're not afraid to work, it will go a long way.

3. Take good care of tools and equipment that are placed in your care. Farm machinery is scarce and difficult to obtain.

4. Don't take needless chances with machinery or livestock. Nothing is gained and much is lost if you get hurt.

5. Be dependable; do what you say you will do.

6. Be courteous and considerate of others. Others should do the same to you.

7. Pay strict attention to directions and follow them carefully.

8. Don't try to keep up with an experienced farm worker until you have become accustomed to farm work.

9. Don't get discouraged if you don't seem to get the necessary skill right away. Farming is an exacting business and the "know how" is not always picked up overnight.

LIVING WITH THE FARM FAMILY

In the case you are working by the week or month you probably will live with the farm family. Living away from home always tests one's ability to get along with other people. The attitude you have toward this will count much in helping you to make this adjustment.

1. The hours you keep may be different from those you kept at home. Adjust yourself to them. Farm work many times depends on weather, and some days will bring longer hours to work than others.

2. The food may be different from mother's cooking. Learn to like and eat what is placed before you. If you are asked what you prefer to eat, don't be afraid to say.

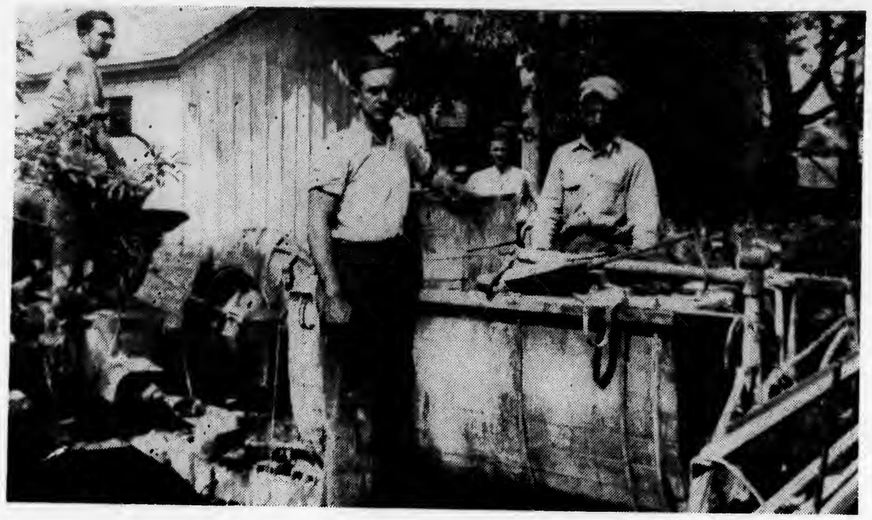
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INTENTIONAL SECOND EXPOSURE

PENNSYLVANIA'S 400-BUSHEL CLUB

Regulations for Checking Yield of Potatoes For 400-Bushel Club

HINTS ON LOCATING BEST ACRE:

Determine by lay of land, by sampling, knowledge of the grower, and character of vine growth, where the probable high yielding acre lies.

A few preliminary checks made by digging and weighing the potatoes from 50 ft. of row at different points in the acre will reveal fairly accurately whether a 400, 500, 600, or 700 bushel yield is to be checked. The following table gives the necessary pounds from 50 ft. of row to indicate a yield of 400, 500, 600, or 700 bushels per acre:

Length of Check *feet of row*	Width of Row *inch rows*	400 Bushels *pounds*	500 Bushels *pounds*	600 Bushels *pounds*	700 Bushels *pounds*
50	28	64.4	80.5	96.6	112.7
50	29	66.7	83.3	100.0	116.7
50	30	69.0	86.2	103.5	120.7
50	31	71.2	89.0	106.8	124.6
50	32	73.5	91.8	110.2	128.6
50	33	75.7	94.5	113.5	132.4
50	34	78.0	97.5	117.0	136.5

REGULATIONS FOR CHECKING ACRE:

1. The acre to be checked shall be made up of any number of continuous equal length rows.

2. To qualify for a 400 or 500 bushel yield at least one-tenth of the acre must be dug and this area shall be included in the check so that not more than ten consecutive undug rows will be left in any portion of the acre.

3. To qualify for a 600 or 700 bushel yield the entire acre shall be dug and weighed.

4. Selection of rows to be dug may include rows adjacent to, and rows not adjacent to sprayer wheel tracks. A proportionate number of each shall be dug. The number of rows adjacent to, and not adjacent to sprayer wheel tracks will vary with the size of the spray boom used.

5. Accuracy in measuring and marking the acre to be dug in weighing and counting the yield is important to the perpetuation of the 400-Bushel Club.

6. All applications, either for Club membership or to have the 400-Bushel Medal awarded (including official yields) must be forwarded to the office of the Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers' Association, Inc., Williamsport, Pennsylvania, not later than DECEMBER FIRST of each year. Applications may be forwarded either by the grower or the Verifying Officer.

PENNSYLVANIA'S 400-BUSHEL CLUB

Record of Official Application for Having an Acre Of Potatoes Checked and for Qualifying for Membership in Pennsylvania's 400-Bushel Club

...., 19....

Gentlemen: In accordance with the regulations and instructions promulgated by the Association for administering Pennsylvania's 400-Bushel Club I, ..., of .....
(Signature of applicant in own hand writing) (Post Office)
R.F.D....., ..., Pennsylvania, have requested and
(County)
had an acre of potatoes checked by....., who
(Name of Official Supervisor)
has performed this service as evidenced by his official report appearing below. I understand that any grower who has an acre of potatoes officially checked and makes the required yield. thereby becomes a bona fide member of Pennsylvania's 400-Bushel Club, (see Regulation 1). It is understood, however, that in order for a Club member to be awarded the Official 400-Bushel Club Medal, applicable to his class, (Regulation 8) that Regulation 7, parts a and b, must be fully complied with.

Check one: ( ) I am a member of the Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers' Association, Inc., in good standing for the current year, or

( ) I apply hereby for membership in the Association, and my dollar membership fee is attached to this application.

AS A MATTER OF HISTORICAL RECORD: In view of the many new varieties being introduced, this yield was made with.....
(Name variety)
Recognizing the possibilities of other improvements or innovations, the following departure from the usual practices was used:.....
.....
.....

OFFICIAL RECORD: As supervisor in the checking of an acre of potatoes for the above named applicant, I hereby certify that I have performed that service and the yield as stated below is official. I recommend, provided applicant has fully met the conditions set forth in the regulations and instructions, that the Official Association 400-Bushel Club Medal, applicable to his class, be awarded as a mark of distinction.

Yield per acre:.....bushels. Date checked:....., 19...

(Signed) .....
County Agent

.....
Vocational Instructor

.....
Association Representative



BLIGHT—BLIGHT

Weather conditions of this spring and summer in some areas of the state have been almost identical to those of last year when we experienced a most disasterous blight epidemic. Potato Production was reduced fully 25% in the 1942 season, from 22,000,000 bushels to less than 17,000,000 bushels. If anything is learned from experience the lesson was well taught. Plant pathologists together with those in the "KNOW" are urging a 5-day spray schedule from now on. The materials are still the same and the mechanics have not changed. It's still Bordeaux mixture 8-8-100 at 350 to 400 pound pressure beginning as soon as the rows can be seen. On the average field 125 gallons per acre application is not too much, this should perhaps be increased as the vines continue to grow.

It is our advice that you continue your spray schedule and if at all possible reduce the interval between applications. There is no better assurance or insurance for the 1943 crop. Small acreages deprived of spraying facilities are beginning to show a break down in several sections, which makes ideal breeding plots or **hot-beds** as it were for large fields. Cloudy days with frequent rains and cool nights spell disaster for the indifferent sprayer of potatoes.

DOES IT SURPRISE YOU?

Most stars are not solid like the earth ...Dynamite can be burned without exploding...Ice is placed at the top of a refrigerator because cold air sinks ...Atoms are too small to be seen by a microscope...We get exactly a pound of ice from a pound of water, though the ice occupies more space...Gold is probably the first metal used by man ...Coal is an impure form of the chemical element carbon...Precious stones are merely crystallized minerals... Their colors are due to very small amounts of impurities.

SPRAY and DUST

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MILLARD MODERN LIMES

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Crop Protection - Service - Reasonable Cost

H. E. MILLARD

Phone 7-3231 **Annville, Pa.**

CO-OPS IN POST-WAR RELIEF

Cowden Sees Solution of Crisis After War; World Food Parley Endorses Co-ops

The use of cooperatives to form a link between producers in this country and consumers in war-torn Europe and Asia was urged in a recent nation-wide radio talk by Howard A. Cowden, president of the Consumers Cooperative Association, North Kansas City, Mo. A few days later, the United Nations Food Conference in session at Hot Springs, Va., came out with a sweeping endorsement of cooperatives as a post-war force.

Manager Cowden, whose far-flung CCA serves thousands of Great Plains farmers and a growing number of urban people, foresees a set-up in which "needed supplies can be originated here by agricultural cooperatives, and shipped to cooperatives in countries like Denmark, for final distribution to consumers."

Many European countries, Mr. Cowden pointed out, already have the framework of vast cooperative systems available, although these have been drastically curtailed in their operations or suspended altogether by Nazi order.

Swedish Way

In Sweden, Mr. Cowden, declared the government is already using the overseas agencies of the Swedish cooperative wholesale in the importation of goods for both cooperatives and profit business. Black markets are reportedly almost non-existent in that country because of strong cooperative control, while Swedish co-ops have boosted their business 36% since the war started.

As the United Nations Food Conference came to a close at the palatial Homestead, in Hot Springs, Va., co-op people noted with interest the broad principles laid down in the parley's resolution on producer and consumer co-ops. Reportedly written in large part by Murray Lincoln, president of the Cooperative League of the U. S. A., and secretary of the Ohio Farm Bureau Federation, who was one of the U. S. Delegates, the resolution puts the conference on record as recommending that, in order to make it possible for people to help themselves in lowering costs of production and cost of distribution and marketing:

1. All countries study the possibilities of the further establishment of producer and consumer cooperatives;

2. Each nation examine its laws, regulations, and institutions to determine if legal or institutional obstacles to cooperative development exists;

3. Full information as to the present developments of cooperatives in different countries be made available.

Egg Ceiling May Ruin Poultrymen, Says State Man

New OPA egg sales regulations may force five Pennsylvania farmer egg auctions to close and put thousands of poultrymen out of business, Agriculture Secretary Miles Horst declared.

"Some producers have intimated that they believe the regulation may lead to rationing of eggs," asserted the official.

The OPA order, effective July 12, rolled back the price that the producer is allowed to receive for eggs with a ceiling of 44 cents a dozen fixed on the basis of "US" specials." An increase of one cent a dozen weekly is permitted through a try-out period ending August 28. Prices to consumers are to remain at established ceilings.

"Poultrymen say they are losing from five to ten cents a dozen on this week's rollback," said Horst. "They point out that feed prices are still advancing and the feed supply is shrinking, it being impossible to buy corn from outside the state. Labor costs are from two to four times the rates paid a year ago. Producers report they are losing from $90 to $200 a week because of the order."

The secretary added "great confusion exists among producers, auction and shippers co-operatives" partly due to varying interpretations given the OPA regulation.

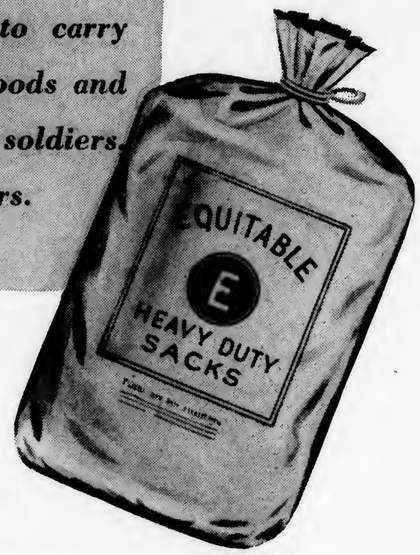
"It is said that first receivers—jobbers or wholesaler—can get one cent more per dozen for eggs over the basic 44 cents by selling to chain retailers with four or more stores and 2½ cents more per dozen by selling to independent retailers or those with fewer than four stores," declared Horst.

INDUCTION NOTICE

For immediate action on the war and civilian front!

Equitable Heavy-Duty Kraft Sacks

report for duty prepared to carry through all conditions the foods and chemicals required by our soldiers, allies and home front workers.



We've answered the call with the best sacks we've ever produced... designed especially for

POTATOES . . . FERTILIZERS
SOYBEAN PRODUCTS, etc.

EQUITABLE PAPER BAG Co.

Northern Plant: 4700 31st Place, Long Island City

Southern Plant & Paper Mills: Orange, Texas

WAREHOUSES IN:
Allentown, Pa., Atlanta, Ga., Boston, Mass., Buffalo, N. Y., Chicago, Ill , Cincinnati, Ohio, Columbus, Ohio, Detroit, Mich., Indianapolis, Ind., Jacksonville, Fla., Kansas City, Mo., Los Angeles, Cal., Memphis, Tenn., Pittsburgh, Pa., Rochester, N. Y., St. Louis, Miss., St. Paul, Minn., Washington, D C., Youngstown, Ohio.

RATIONING OF FARM MACHINERY MAY BE RELAXED ALTOGETHER

WASHINGTON, July—Farm machinery rationing restrictions, which plagued farmers into a nationwide chorus of irate squawks, are expected to be relaxed almost to the vanishing point.

"Supply and demand, those supposedly 4-F economic twins, have been reclassified 1-A and drafted to iron out grievous kinks in the farm equipment distribution system," said an unofficial authority who speaks for authentic but unquotable sources.

"War Food Administration will rely heavily on normal manufacturer-to-farmer distributive channels in the farm machinery program for 1943-44 to be announced formally next month."

The farm equipment program now in the W.F.A. works tentatively calls for unrationed sale of a large percentage of the machinery output in the stepped-up production year, which began July 1.

The situation is outlined thusly:

1. W.P.B. on recommendation of W.F.A. made available 900,000 tons of carbon steel for farm machinery, plus sufficient critical metals to assure production of 80 per cent of the 1940 farm equipment output.

(Farm machinery needs for 1942-43 were under-estimated in W.P.B. by official admission. Output was originally set at 23 per cent of 1940 totals, was hastily revised upward to 40 per cent when the food crisis became apparent in March. A supplementary allocation of materials also permitted additional manufacture of harvesting equipment during the July 1-October 1, quarter.)

2. Production of spare and replacement parts, to keep equipment already on farms in service, was fixed at 160 per cent of the 1940 norm during 1942-43, and distribution fell behind requirements. The W.F.A. program for the next crop years calls for "unlimited" production of spare parts, and unrationed distribution via supply-and-demand channels.

Advance Production Year

3. The farm machinery production year normally begins October 1, but W.F.A. prevailed on W.P.B. to advance the date to July 1. In this way, production for the July-August-September period is virtually doubled, as output for the last quarter of the old year and the first quarter of the advanced production year is concurrent. It is also reported that much of the harvesting equipment authorized under the supplementary W.P.B. order is "late for the party." Some corn and soybean equipment, for instance, will help to get in this year's crop, but hay balers and wheat garnering equipment is coming out past peak-use time.)

4. Only two relatively minor checks will slow the "free" distribution of the four-fifths normal farm machinery output. First, 1942-43 county quotas still unfilled under the present rationing allocation must be met. Second, a fraction of the total output, after these quotas have been filled, will be held back as a cushion against unforseen requirements of the next crop year. The total output will move from factory to farmer along pre-war distributive channels under supply-and-demand impetus.



BLUE LABEL POTATOES are on the way to Pennsylvania's kitchen table.

Potato Marking Law to Include Apples and Peaches



Blue Labels in 15 and 50 Pound Packages are available.

Pennsylvania fruit growers were instrumental in securing an amendment to the Potato Marking Law at the last session of the state Legislature which provides for the inclusion of apples and peaches under the provisions of the Act.

For several years fruit growers of the state have studied the results obtained for the potato industry by the "Potato Law." They believed that the stabilizing effects which the marking requirements for potatoes had on the potato market were extremely beneficial and that similar legislation was needed for the fruit industry. This matter was brought before the State Horticultural Association in its annual meeting and before most of the County Associations of the state.

Two fruit growers, who were members of the State Legislature, were the sponsors of the amended bill—namely Rep. Frank Gillon of Franklin County and Rep. George Goodling of York.

Banner
MICRO-MAG
A Super Fine Hydroxide

Banner-Micro-Mag

Increases The Yield Of Potatoes

Increased yields of potatoes can be obtained where magnesium oxide is available to the plant. Feed nutritional magnesia through the leaf when spraying or dusting by using dual purpose Banner Micro-Mag.

Banner Micro-Mag contains 36% magnesium oxide. The specific surface area is 111,000 square centimeters per gram. Average particle size is 0.2 micron.

Banner Micro-Mag is packed in convenient 50 lb. multiwall paper bags. Handled by better dealers.

NATIONAL MORTAR & SUPPLY COMPANY

Grant Bldg. Pittsburgh, Pa.
Plant: Gibsonburg, Ohio

CUPROCIDE for potatoes...

Read what other growers say

1 "This is the second year I have used CUPROCIDE Dust on my 100 acres of potatoes with good results . . . aphid infestations are lighter compared with bordeaux . . . blight control is good."

Arthur V. Youngs

2 "CUPROCIDE Dust held my potato vines and controlled blight as well as bordeaux . . . this was a severe test as blight has been worse this season than for the past 15-20 years."

J. Dwight Reeve

3 "We applied CUPROCIDE Dust on 135 acres of potatoes . . . obtained good commercial control of blight . . . find CUPROCIDE Dust very satisfactory in either wet or dry season."

Carl and John Hohorst

4 "I have used Yellow CUPROCIDE spray on my potato acreage for two seasons. This past season I used CUPROCIDE on my entire 90 acres. It gave me excellent control of blight."

Gustaf A. Johnson

LOOK FOR THIS EMBLEM THIS DUST CONTAINS CUPROCIDE A FUNGICIDE MADE BY ROHM & HAAS COMPANY **WHEN YOU BUY DUST**

CUPROCIDE *is a trade-mark, Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.*

ROHM & HAAS COMPANY
WASHINGTON SQUARE, PHILADELPHIA, PA.
Manufacturers of Chemicals including Plastics . . Synthetic Insecticides . . Fungicides . . Enzymes . . Chemicals for the Leather, Textile and other Industries



DOUBLE DUTY!

The MacDougal Brothers, Avoca, N. Y. are farming a total of 600 acres, 300 of which are in potatoes, planted with a Farquhar Iron Age two-row high speed planter, and protected against insects and plant diseases by a Farquhar Iron Age tractor mounted duster. The duster has been in continual transit between their farm in Avoca, N. Y. and their farm in Virginia. During all this time, it has seen almost continual service.

Mr. MacDougal states that he has dusted 65 acres in one afternoon. His duster is mounted in such a way that it does not interfere with the cultivators on the tractor which he utilizes at the same time. He has equipped the duster with various speeds by use of interchangeable sprockets so that speeds can be varied for various weights of dust.

Production of Iron Age equipment is limited today by the war. However, you can secure vitally needed equipment by applying to your local ration board. To be sure you get the best specify . . . Iron Age.



Industry's flag of freedom waves in the air above the plants of the Farquhar Company . . . presented by the Army and Navy for outstanding production of war material.

Plant and Spray the IRON AGE Way



A.B.FARQUHAR CO., Limited, YORK, PA.

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THE GUIDE POST

VOLUME XX NUMBER 8



The 1943 Potato Blossom Queen, Miss Carolyn McHenry

Attended by Aola Howard, 1942 Queen, and Flower Girls, the Misses Hindman and Fisher.



AUGUST — 1943

Published by the

PENNSYLVANIA COOPERATIVE POTATO GROWERS ASSOCIATION

INCORPORATED

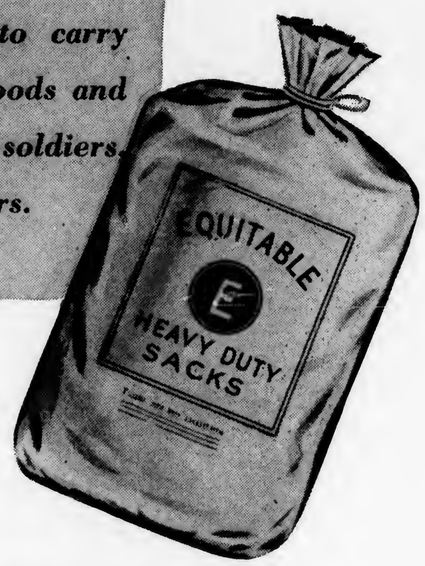


INDUCTION NOTICE

For immediate action on the war and civilian front!

Equitable Heavy-Duty Kraft Sacks

report for duty prepared to carry through all conditions the foods and chemicals required by our soldiers, allies and home front workers.



We've answered the call with the best sacks we've ever produced... designed especially for

POTATOES . . . FERTILIZERS
SOYBEAN PRODUCTS, etc.

EQUITABLE PAPER BAG Co.

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Allentown, Pa., Atlanta, Ga., Boston, Mass., Buffalo, N. Y., Chicago, Ill , Cincinnati, Ohio, Columbus, Ohio, Detroit, Mich., Indianapolis, Ind., Jacksonville, Fla., Kansas City, Mo., Los Angeles, Cal., Memphis, Tenn., Pittsburgh, Pa., Rochester, N. Y., St. Louis, Miss., St. Paul, Minn., Washington, D C., Youngstown, Ohio.

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Volume XX | **August, 1943** | **Number 8**

A PROSPEROUS POTATO INDUSTRY

Conclusions After 25 Years of Experimentation, Demonstration and Observation

DR. E. L. NIXON

A program leading to a profitable potato industry involves the consideration of a proper potato mentality concerned with—

(1) Vision to see
(2) Faith to believe
(3) Courage to do

One of the first things potato philosopher John Shrope said the other day in introducing a thought along another line was "you can't make a straight row unless you see one."

Director Will Hays said to his boys the other day after he had inspected a slat body which his boys had laboriously completed, "Take that standard loose and straighten it up, we may be crooked but we do not want to advertise it." I have often pondered over how straight certain of our forest trees grow in spite of all the resistance they have to overcome. Take the hemlock—it is nearly always a straight upright tree. I wonder if that had anything to do with its selection as our state tree. Take the tulip tree, the chestnut, the sturdy oaks, they have fought resistance of the elements, overcome gravity and are useful because of it.

It has been said that *vision* is the mystic window through which genius beholds the future. We are all hoping that the world's statesmen are seeing into this post war world of ours. Statesmen look to the next generation, politicians look to the next election. The solution of the post war world's problems will not be found in some high-sounding phrases or panaceas but in some such simple and understandable terms as "thou shalt not steal." There are eleven of them all together. The same total of their philosophy is as applicable to nations as to individuals.

It takes not only vision to see, but faith to believe and courage to do. We have the formulae, we see the need, (or will it take another war?) we lack the courage.

Speaking of vision to see, faith to believe and courage to do, I have never seen them better exemplified than with one of our old potato growers the other day. Many growers will remember the "All Pennsylvania Bus Tour" of a number of years ago. For many this tour started at the home of Thomas Denniston. "Tom" Denniston saw a straight row away back then. He followed that straight row right down to the last, and the other day he and I dug a few hills of his last crop. "Tom" has sold his farm and retired as a potato grower except as he reflects back over the years. It probably took more vision to see, more faith to believe and more courage to do in the production of this last crop than any previous crop he ever grew. When asked about his crop "Tom" said, "Well, I wanted to do something to aid in the war." His vision to see is as clear as it was twenty years ago. His faith to believe is firmer, for he has had 20 successful crops tucked under his belt. *Courage to do* unexceeded, for he planted crops bucking all the hazards, and more than most other potato growers. It would have been so easy for Tom Denniston to sit down and fold his



Mr. Denniston's Last Crop. These were Nittanies dug and Photographed July 14, 1943. The Nittany has done well ever since it was introduced on Mr. Denniston's farm a dozen or more years ago.—Photographed by Louis Bailey.

hands and quit. His potato fields could just as easy have been weed patches. In spite of the season, old age and the vicissitudes of life, and labor shortage, he sowed the seed, and as usual with him, it fell on fertile ground. A nice potato field enhances the sole value of a farm a great deal more than "thorns and thistles." Anyway, to make a long story short the little farm, the home of Thomas Denniston sold up into five figures. It was none too much for what it has yielded in crops as well as in vision to see, faith to believe and courage to do.

And so Thomas Denniston will take his place with the pioneers in modern potato productions and among the leaders of men in any other field of human endeavor.

The potato industry is larger and more necessary to the welfare of mankind than many other industries or professions. Thomas Denniston's farm stands as an oasis in a desert as a homestead established on a program of economical potato production. The new owners have a responsibility to keep it so and it is the hope and desire of many Pennsylvania potato growers that they will succeed.

WHY A "CAMP POTATO"

Camp Potato epitomizes in the hearts of Pennsylvania Potato Growers, VISION TO SEE, FAITH TO BELIEVE and COURAGE TO DO. In the beginning, the only animal in the jungle that had sense enough to REASON IT OUT and TO SEIZE and to USE THE MATERIAL AND FORCES around him was MAN and with this one slight advantage, he turned the rest of the animal kingdom into meat for his table, leather for his feet, and circuses for his amusement.

On the basis of instinct the apes would have licked us long ago. With reason which man alone possesses, the other animals cannot compete. In this race for ascendency and survival the pathway is not only lined with roses, there are many graves, the result of trial and error. This race has probably not equalled the batting average of the best hitters in professional baseball with a batting average of between .300-.400, which means that they miss six or eight times out of every ten times they come to bat. Yet that is still hitting as any ball player knows. A great inventor has dozens of failures before he perfects a succcessful invention and a great chemist tries hundreds of experiments

before he makes one important discovery. All of which means one thing: SUCCESS ISN'T FIGURED BY AVERAGES. Nobody will remember the times you struck out in the early innings if you hit a home run with the bases full in the ninth. Failure means nothing if success comes eventually.

The Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers' Association did not acquire "Camp Potato" concept at one grand stride or the spirit of co-operative effort out of thin air. Too many potato growers harken back to co-operative failures, forgetting that the batting average for success in the greatest American sport is six to seven misses out of ten tries. Trial and error are as essential in the co-operative movement as they are in any progressive steps involving mankind. The co-operative movement is demonstrating to the nation that BUSINESS and AGRICULTURE, CITY and COUNTRY, can equitably distribute abundance through mutual co-operation to the end that POVERTY and DISTRESS in the midst of plenty may be eliminated.—Dr. E. L. Nixon.

Editors Note: The above is an excerpt from our Annual Field Day Program leaflet and was the basis of Dr. Nixon's Address on this occasion. Directors and members are heartily in accord with the sentiment expressed. We feel that the thoughts involved should be kept constantly before our membership.

ASSOCIATION DIRECTORS' MEETING

FRIDAY, AUGUST 13th



Directors are intensely interested in "THE BIG FIVE" most promising and most proven SEEDLINGS at "CAMP POTATO." What will their decision be? q51A - WOS - HU23 - *VEVW etc.

Association directors were called to "Camp Potato" the day before the annual "Field Day" to inspect the camp and to conduct important timely business of the season. One of their first tasks was to examine seedling plots and to decide if possible what disposal was to be made of the most promising seedlings that have been tried and proven for 8 to 10 years. Under the guidance of Dr. E. L. Nixon, directors were shown these prospective varieties growing side by side with many already popular varieties. All seedlings together with present accepted varieties have been exposed for years to virus diseases, ring-rot, etc. It was shown and demonstrated clearly how this exposure affects these potatoes. The contrast was self-explanatory and most enlightening. There seems to be sufficient evidence to prove that some of our much advertised



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INTENTIONAL SECOND EXPOSURE

and seemingly accepted varieties are *on their way out* because they cannot be maintained over a period of more than three or four years. Directors as a group were well impressed and very much concerned as to what to do with *The FIVE* most promising seedlings. It was their opinion that the membership should be given definite priority and that the association should realize financial benefits over and above all growers and all states.

At the conclusion of the field trip the directors, guests of the camp and cooperating workers were served with a sumptuous banquet consisting of baked clams, lobsters, chicken and corn on the cob. This meal was a surprise to everybody, thanks to Ed Malley and the Equitable Paper Bag Co. "Ed" did a wonderful job in a most unassuming manner at no cost to the Association. It was advisedly called a "Victory Dinner" of non-rationed foods.

At 8:30 p.m. President Whitenight called directors and members who happened to be staying at the camp to a business meeting. Items of business brought before the group were OPA Regulations, the Butler Office, the Bag Deal, Marketing Conference, and Seedlings. A decision on the latter was not arrived at but it was thoroughly discussed and finally postponed to be disposed of at the next meeting in September.

One important decision of the Directors was to hold the annual Joint Marketing Conference at Harrisburg early in September. The purpose of this conference is to iron out difficulties pertaining to the marketing of Blue Label Potatoes this season. Administrators, buyers and growers from all over the state are being invited to attend.

Pennsylvania's Fifth-Potato Blossom Queen Selected At "Camp Potato," August 14th



Secretary of Agriculture, Miles Horst presents our 1943 Blossom Queen and most aptly crowns her with fitting ceremony.

State-wide interest in the annual selection of the 1943 Potato Blossom Queen was most keen. Contestants from seven prominent potato growing areas were present at the State Growers Field Day at "Camp Potato," Potter County, August 14th. Indiana, Somerset, Lehigh, Warren, Lycoming, Columbia were represented by growers' daughters who were anxious to be the individual to popularize and advertise Pennsylvania Potatoes. Miss Carolyn McHenry, daughter of Eli McHenry of Benton, was judged by an independent, unbiased committee to be the most fitting example of personality, tact, friendliness and pulchritude. Miss McHenry's charm was most outstanding—her calm poise together with her general friendliness attracted the official judges at once.

Much is expected of the annual Potato Blossom Queen in that all important state functions she will preside to remind consumers, distributors and producers that potatoes are important to all of us, that the potato business is a big business and a business that has been placed upon a very high plane. Briefly, Miss McHenry will be the symbol of Pennsylvania's $40,000,000 Potato Industry. She hails from northeastern potato growing area and will represent them and the state in general most admirably. Her first function will be to preside at and open the session of the Association's Joint Marketing Conference to be held at Harrisburg, September 14th. Distributors and producers will meet at this occasion to iron out present and anticipated difficulties involved in the marketing of the 1943 crop.

Miss McHenry graduated with special honors from the Benton High School last June. She is a talented musician and a generally accomplished young lady who expects to enter nurses' training at Johns Hopkins this coming winter.

SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE MILES HORST PRESENTS

Crowning of the 1943 Potato Blossom Queen was most ably done by none other than Miles Horst, Pennsylvania's Secretary of Agriculture. Mr. Horst has been most active in the affairs of this association prior to the establishment of a marketing program. His interest in its welfare has always been keen. In his most fitting remarks Mr. Horst emphasized the importance of Agriculture in Pennsylvania and the ever-growing importance of the potato industry. He stressed working as individuals and as groups to continually improve rural agriculture. "The potato," said Mr. Horst, "has been considered at times as quite drab and commonplace yet humanity relies upon it through thick and thin. On more than one occasion has Europe fallen back upon the potato as its last food resource. Mr. Horst expressed himself as always being impressed with the spirit of good fellowship and co-operation in every potato gathering, whether in Potter County or elsewhere, and hoped this spirit would continue throughout the years to come. The Pennsylvania Co-operative Potato Growers Association, has done well by the industry, says Mr. Horst, in many, many endeavors. The least of these is decidedly not the selection and crowning of a Potato Blossom Queen, who will popularize the potato and the industry.

HOW TO GET ENOUGH FOOD

The food problem is not half as complicated as Washington makes it out to be. Food is produced by farmers. You produce some, your neighbor grows some—you and six million other farmers. Very little is produced in the District of Columbia.

For quite a few generations farmers simply planted, cultivated and harvested. They did their work, and there was food.

Now, two things have taken place.

War has intervened with increased demands and with competition for materials and labor.

Government has intervened, necessarily for certain purposes, but has done it with headlong interference, exasperating delays and paralyzing confusions.

If government will only limit and direct its intervention sensibly farmers will get their end of the war job done.

The food can be grown. The requirements are enough equipment and enough labor, with prices high enough to maintain solvency, encourage cultivation of more marginal land, and to permit maximum utilization of good land.

In plain words, let farmers do their work, and there will be food.

—The Eastern Milk Producer

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INTENTIONAL SECOND EXPOSURE

1943 BLOSSOM QUEEN CONTESTANTS



Contestants presided over by Miss Aola Howard of Potter County, 1942 Potato Blossom Queen.

Just before the selection of the 1943 Potato Blossom Queen—the young ladies are from left to right Evelyn Heintzelman of Lehigh County, Carolyn McHenry of Columbia County, Carol Stutzman, of Indiana County, Miss Aola Howard of Potter County, Ruth Connelly of Lycoming County, Ella Mae Jensen of Warren County, Florence Lohr of Somerset County and Charlotte Blass of Potter County.

SOLICIT SUGGESTIONS FOR THE 1944 "ANNUAL FIELD DAY"

It is always wise to reconstruct events immediately following the conclusion of an important occasion to determine what could be done to improve and make this particular event still more effective and worthwhile. *Now*, while things are still fresh in your minds, is the time to lay plans for the Pennsylvania Co-operative Potato Growers' 1944 Field Day. Suggestions have been made by interested members. They are as follows:

1. Arrange activities for children and young folks.
2. Install a loud speaker or amplifying system.
3. Place refreshment stands outside of building.
4. Supply more comfortable seating facilities.
5. Arrange special events for the ladies.

Continued on page 17

CERTIFIED
SEED POTATOES

Inquiries solicited for carloads and less size B Maine Katahdins and Sebagos out of Certified Maine fields. All other varieties. Also North Dakota stock. Spring shipment.

ED. A. TREXLER
Trexler, Pa.

CRUISING THRU-OUT LEHIGH COUNTY

July 24th Observations were Most Encouraging—Good Stand—Good Set—Big Tops.



The Cruising Committee—Roy Wotring, P. Daniel Frantz, and Dr. E. L. Nixon on the farm of Bob Aten (formerly the Dr. D. D. Fritch Farm).

The most concentrated potato growing area barring none in the U. S. is in Pennsylvania and Lehigh County. This seems hard to believe yet in 1941-42 a section of Lehigh County had actually a larger acreage than any section in the U. S. Peculiarly enough Lehigh has never had a potato crop failure—there have been reductions but never a failure.

The common rotation in the valley is wheat, clover and potatoes which seems most adapted to the section. Every third field is a potato field. Corn grows well in Lehigh County but little is grown except in small patches and in "point-rows" or in ground unsuited to potato production.

In 1941, 12,670 acres were devoted to potato production with a total yield of approximately 2¼ million bushels. It is estimated that 14,000 acres were planted in 1943 and when this observation was made (July 24th) all indications pointed to a good yield particularly in the northern and western part of the county.

Stands were good and sets were promising. There seemed to be plenty of moisture in the ground and not many weeds. In the southern section of the county, however, growers had considerable rain during the planting and cultivating season which left quite a few fields somewhat weedy. This is lamented for no farmer in the U. S. takes more pride in a job well done than the Lehigh County farmer.

Sprayers—sprayers and more sprayers, were seen doing their job as routine work but definitely efficient. From horse traction to 12 row-boom sprayers moved along on 5 to 7 day schedules. There are few spray rings or groups; Lehigh growers do not feel that group owning of equipment is the answer to efficient agricultural production. They feel that their units should be large enough to justify a full line of equipment.

When one thinks of potatoes in Pennsylvania one naturally thinks of Lehigh, Lancaster, Somerset, Northampton, Erie and York counties as the foremost producing areas. Yet close upon the heels of these counties, one must also remember Berks, Cambria, Schuylkill, Potter, Luzerne and Columbia. These twelve counties produce over

1943 BLOSSOM QUEEN CONTESTANTS



Contestants presided over by Miss Aola Howard of Potter County, 1942 Potato Blossom Queen.

Just before the selection of the 1943 Potato Blossom Queen—the young ladies are from left to right Evelyn Heintzelman of Lehigh County, Carolyn McHenry of Columbia County, Carol Stutzman, of Indiana County, Miss Aola Howard of Potter County, Ruth Connelly of Lycoming County, Ella Mae Jensen of Warren County, Florence Lohr of Somerset County and Charlotte Blass of Potter County.

SOLICIT SUGGESTIONS FOR THE 1944 "ANNUAL FIELD DAY"

It is always wise to reconstruct events immediately following the conclusion of an important occasion to determine what could be done to improve and make this particular event still more effective and worthwhile. *Now*, while things are still fresh in your minds, is the time to lay plans for the Pennsylvania Co-operative Potato Growers' 1944 Field Day. Suggestions have been made by interested members. They are as follows:

1. Arrange activities for children and young folks.
2. Install a loud speaker or amplifying system.
3. Place refreshment stands outside of building.
4. Supply more comfortable seating facilities.
5. Arrange special events for the ladies.

Continued on page 17

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INTENTIONAL SECOND EXPOSURE

half of the potatoes grown in the state. From the standpoint of marketing the co-operative way, one can figure on the above counties doing their proportionate volume of business.

When naming names in Lehigh County you quickly associate families with the early and present story of potato development. Foremost and topping the list, the name of Dr. D. D. Fritch comes first to mind—the man who believed in the industry and put his "all" into commercial production methods. However, we have the Leibeys, the Finks, the Roths, the Wotrings, the Ringers, the Handwerks, the Frantzs, the Metzgars, the Eberts, the Snyders, the Creitzs. Together with the Kistlers, the Weavers, the Schelhammers, the Wanamakers, the Lichtenwalners, the Georges, and the Fowlers. There are many more growers in Lehigh noted for efficient economical production but the above were particularly noted when speaking of potatoes and visiting fields last month. Popular growing sections are: New Tripoli, Neffs, Egypt, Heidelberg, Germansville, Lynnport, Wanamaker, and Kempton.



One of the Oldest Frame Potato Storage Houses in Lehigh County—Guess Whose?

POTATO STORAGE WALLS COLLAPSE

EXPERIENCE IS GOOD BUT EXPENSIVE

There are many community and individual storage cellars being built throughout the state at the present time. Experiences in concrete block and regular concrete construction have not been too great yet from a few observations an important lesson is outstanding. This lesson is that fill-ins or backfills must be made cautiously and most carefully. Steam shovels and bulldozers are tools that are high powered and decidedly heavy. In some instances they have caused walls and ends to crack and crumble.

P. Daniel Frantz, Branch Manager at Allentown, states that he has seen entire sides of storage cellars caved in by heavy grading machinery and further states that in his opinion, fill-ins should be made gradually and preferably by hand after adequate drainage has been provided. According to Mr. Frantz he feels that a few feet at a time should be placed against the walls, only after the interiors have been reinforced and practically completed. This observation is a timely suggestion and should be given every consideration. Obviously the expense and discouragement because of the lack of foresight in respect to cave-ins is prohibitive, to say the least. A recent accident has aroused growers to this danger and can be an object lesson to all contemplating construction.

Potato Storage Conditions

The potato tuber is a highly specialized underground stem adapted by nature for vegetative propagation or development into new plants. The potato has been improved and developed by man so that now it is used not only for propagation but especially as an important source of food.

Whether used for planting or as a source of food, most of the potatoes grown have to be stored from one to several months before they are used. Potatoes are living organisms constantly respiring or "breathing" and losing water, both of which processes cause weight losses or shrinkage. In respiration, foods in the tubers and oxygen from the air combine to release energy for life processes. Carbon dioxide and water are released as waste products. Fortunately the rates of weight losses are slow due to the semidormant condition of the tubers during this period and to the presence of a corky skin. However, like other living stored produce such as apples, vegetables, etc., certain storage conditions must be provided to prevent excessive weight losses or physiological breakdowns such as black heart.

On most small farms and on a few of the larger ones the house cellar is used for potato storage. Such a storage almost always guarantees protection from freezing but by late spring the tubers are considerably shriveled. A study conducted in New York State showed that potatoes stored for seven months in the average cellar lost about 6 per cent of their original weight. If stored in a bank storage the weight losses were only about half as great. In the house cellar the average temperature was higher and the humidity lower than in the bank storage. It is common knowledge that the lower the humidity the more rapidly will things dry out and lose weight. However, the humidity depends on temperature as well as the absolute water content of the air. It can be shown that if the temperature of the air in the average cellar storage could be lowered to the average temperature of the bank storage the humidity at the lowered temperature would have a value close to that observed in bank storages. Consequently, the temperature is the controlling factor in a good storage from the standpoint of weight losses.

At lower temperatures the growth of fungi is retarded. Consequently, in a cool storage there should be a reduced amount of tuber rots caused by fungi.

Considering the above relations one might conclude that the best temperature for potato storage would be one just slightly above the freezing temperature of the potatoes. However, it has been found that if the storage temperatures are lower than about 40° F. the sugar content of stored tubers slowly becomes higher. The increase in sugars is proportional to the degree of lowering of the temperature below 40° F. It has also been found that with the increased sugar content at temperatures below 40° F. the respiration rate increases slightly. Analyzing the results of many different experiments it has been concluded that the best storage temperature for potatoes is between 37° and 40° F.

A second important condition in potato storage is that of air supply commonly known as aeration or ventilation. Some work done in California showed that blackheart is caused by abnormal respiration in an environment of inadequate oxygen such as is caused by lack of ventilation. Abundance of carbon dioxide did not seem to have any effect in causing blackheart. At low temperatures of 38° to 50° F., stored potatoes lasted two weeks or more with no detectable oxygen in the air before blackheart appeared. At high temperatures of 95° to 104° F., however, blackheart appeared in less than a day and while there still was a considerable amount of oxygen in the air. The reason for the behavior at high temperatures was that respiration was so rapid that oxygen for normal respiration could not be absorbed fast enough from an air with a reduced amount of oxygen present. At the low temperatures the respiration was so slow that even after the oxygen of the air was absent there was enough dissolved oxygen within the tuber for normal respiration for a few weeks. At low temperatures (below 50° F.) there is no great danger of blackheart, provided there is free access to pure air overhead. However, if potatoes are stored in tight bins without an appreciable air space above the potatoes it is important that the condition of the air is checked frequently even if the storage temperature is at 38-40° F. This is especially necessary in the spring when the dormancy of the potatoes is broken and sprouting is initiated.

To summarize the above discussion, there is scientific evidence from studies on shrinkage, quality changes, prevention of blackheart, etc., that a storage temperature of about 40° F. and a reasonable consideration to provide ventilation are necessary for good potato storage conditions.

TRUE — TRUE

An American soldier in England was giving some illustrations of the size of the country. "You can board a train in the state of Texas at dawn," he said impressively, "and twenty-four hours later you'll still be in Texas."

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INTENTIONAL SECOND EXPOSURE

THE POTATO AND GOOD NUTRITION

Potatoes Are Native Americans

The potato is a typical American vegetable. It was cultivated in South America as early as 200 A.D. Spanish explorers took specimens back to Spain in 1572. From South America potato cultivation spread north and English discoverers found them being grown by the American Indians. England got its first taste of potatoes when one of Sir Walter Raleigh's ships carried back a cargo of the vegetable in 1656.

The potato belongs to the interesting botanical family, the Night Shade. Other members are the plant which produces the drug Belladonna; tobacco; and the vegetables tomato, eggplant, and red pepper.

When first introduced into Europe, many people believed the potato to possess poisonous qualities; therefore, it did not come into general use until this feeling was overcome in the latter half of the 18th century.

More Valuable Than Silver or Gold

Little did the early Spanish explorers imagine that the unimportant looking tubers they found the natives cultivating would one day prove more valuable than all the precious metals they fought to win. The potato, as developed by cultivation, produces more food per acre than any other crop. Yields of 200 to 300 bushels per acre are fairly common and record yields have reached 1,000 bushels! The money value of the annual crop of about 5,000,000,000 bushels far exceeds the annual production of silver and gold!

Are We Heavy Potato Eaters?

The per capita annual consumption of potatoes in the United States for the years 1934-37 is given by the U. S. Department of Agriculture as 157 pounds. This seems a very substantial amount until it is compared with potato consumption in Europe, where the figure reaches 358 pounds per person, in some countries. Crowded populations and the necessity for raising food crops giving a high yield is partly responsible for this figure. But potato consumption would never have reached and stayed at such levels had racial experience not proven their value as a food.

Are Potatoes Fattening?

Certain concentrated, high caloric foods, such as sugar, fats and highly-milled cereals are often placed on the forbidden list for people concerned with weight control. A glance at a few facts will show the error of including potatoes on this list. The fact that potatoes are 75 per cent water should immediately remove them from the list of concentrated foods. A good big baked potato, with that satisfying whole meal bulk will furnish just about 200 calories. Compare its nutritive value and bulk, so important to dieters, with some other 200 calorie foods—3 tablespoons heavy cream, 2 tablespoons mayonnaise, or 2 pieces of candy.

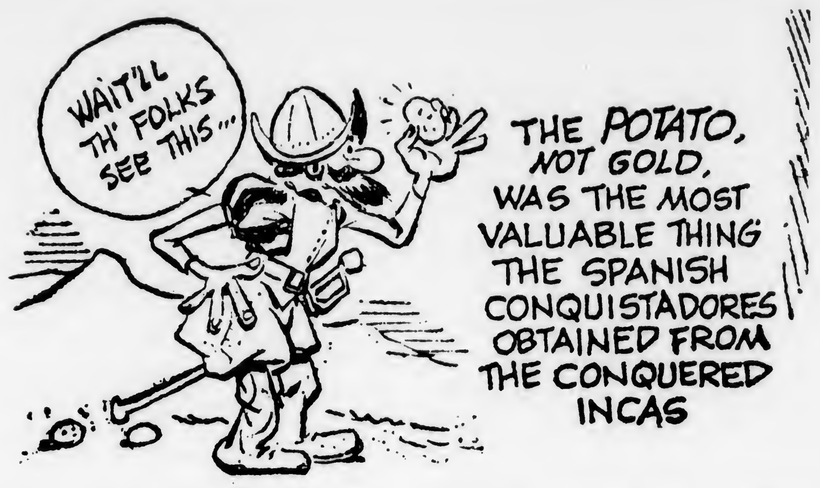
There is truth in the saying that it isn't the potato which is fattening, it's what you put on it! The rich brown gravy or a too-generous hand with the butter are the danger points for expanding waist lines.

The Nutritive Value

Science has now given us the reasons why potatoes have proven such a successful food. Before noting what these nutritive values are, there is one preliminary point that should be mentioned. That is the availability of the food materials shown in food composition charts. Sometimes foodstuffs seem to be locked up in a chemical combination or surrounded by indigestible cellulose in such a way that the body cannot release and use them. Such nutrients are said to be biologically unavailable. For example, the carbohydrate of string beans and cabbage is less than one-sixth available. In sharp contrast to this, the carbohydrates of the potato is nearly 100 per cent available and used by the body!

Potato Substitutes?

Spaghetti, macaroni and white rice are sometimes erroneously thought of as substitutes for potatoes. These foods have their place in the diet as energy producers and as "extenders" or "carriers" of more highly flavored and expensive foods, such as meat, fish and cheese. But it is a mistake to think of them as fulfilling the same functions as potatoes in the diet. True, their bland flavor and richness as a source of energy seems to class them with potatoes. But the similarity ends there, for these cereal foods lack the potato's neutralizing alkalinity, regulating bulk, iron and vitamins. This difference is especially important to remember in the diets of young children where every food served must make its contribution toward the other nutritional needs, as well as furnishing energy.



Nutritive Value and Cost

Buying healthful food is comparatively easy on an unlimited purse, but the more limited the food budget, the more difficult it is to furnish all the elements the body needs.

How do potatoes rate as an economical source of the required nutrients? Stiebling and Clark in the 1939 Yearbook of Agriculture, Food and Life, have classified the common foods into 12 major groups of similar foods. Then they have rated them according to the contributions each group makes, to each of 8 important nutritive needs, for an expenditure of 5 cents. Potatoes white and sweet, show up on this chart as outstandingly good buys in practically all respects. Therefore, for those who are looking for more for their money in good nutrition, potatoes should certainly be given a prominent place on the menu and on the shopping list.

How to Buy

A good potato should be firm to pressure of the hand, with even, net-textured skin. It should have few and shallow eyes. The shape may be long or round, depending on variety, but should not have protruding knobs indicating uneven growth. The inside color should be an even creamy white with no signs of rings. The desirable mealiness of cooked potatoes is the result of high starch content. To test for this quality, cut a potato in two and rub cut surfaces together. Considerable froth and a tendency to cling together indicates high starch content.

Do not buy—potatoes that are flabby, shriveled, knobby or those which have deep-pitted, scabby skins, cuts, decay or a large amount of dirt. Avoid those with black or hollow heart. Green color on or just below the skin indicates sunburn and bitter flavor.

If You Store Them at Home

When potatoes are purchased in larger amount than can be used in a short time, some consideration should be given to proper storage to insure retaining best quality. A moderately cool, dark, dry storage place is essential.

It is important that the temperature at which potatoes are stored never drop below 40° F., because at lower temperatures the starch is re-converted into sugar. This change may be sufficient to cause an objectionably sweet flavor and seriously injure the cooking qualities, notably frying and the making of potato chips, because the excessive amount of sugar carmelizes and gives an undesirable dark color. Such potatoes when brought into a warm room gradually lose sugar by re-conversion into starch.

SUGGESTED RECIPES

One-Dish Meal

Recipe: Peel and cut 5 medium size potatoes into small cubes, about ½ inch. Combine with ½ cup ham or chipped beef tidbits, 1 tbsp. minced green pepper, 1 tsp. grated onion, and 3 cups of thin cream sauce in which ½ cup grated cheese has been melted. Turn into but-

Continued on page 17

THE GUIDE POST

Published monthly by the Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers,' Inc.

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All communications should be addressed to C. F. H. Wuesthoff, Executive Secretary, Williamsport, Pennsylvania.



THEIR DAY: It would have been a nasty day for the customer in Roy, Montana, if there had been one. The blacksmith wasn't around. The barber had hung up his "gone for the day" sign. The restaurant was closed. So was the mercantile firm. Even the town bartender was absent. Everybody was helping harvest farm crops.

"NAMELESS CHILDREN"

An Editorial in "IRON AGE"

Branding cattle so as to indicate ownership is a well recognized and approved method of protecting property rights. The owner of a herd selects his brand which becomes, so to speak, his trademark. Out in the big open spaces where men are men and cattle the principal product, anyone who obliterates a brand is considered a criminal and treated accordingly. In the past when crime was not as highly regarded or as softly treated as it is today, shooting or hanging were considered suitable punishments.

One can well understand that attitude on the part of the cattlemen. They risked their lives, not to speak of their money, faced the hazards and hardships incident to exposure to extremes of heat and cold and gave all that they had to building up their business of beef on the hoof. And all that they had to protect what they had so painfully built were their brands. I presume that cattle rustlers may have had an organization or trade association, and perhaps a lobbyist or two to protect their interests. If so, they may well have considered how beneficial it would be to them if a law could be passed making it illegal to brand cattle. They would hardly have the effrontry to ask that cattle stealing be eliminated from the criminal codes, but the elimination of brands would do just as well because it would completely abolish the identity of the product.

Under such circumstances it would be a simple matter for a strong-arm man with political protection to take over in a matter of hours or days what had cost another man years or even a lifetime of honest work to build.

Silly even to think of such an absurd proposal, isn't it? Free men in a country would not stand for anything like that. But that is exactly what an important and powerful group of economic reconstructors are proposing to do in connection with brands applied to products—not to cattle on the hoof, but to beef and other foods in the can, to stockings, to shoes and a multitude of other products.

The effect on property rights and the destruction of lifetimes of work of both men and money would be exactly the same as it would be in the case of the elimination of cattle brands. But beyond this, the effect on quality of product would be deplorable.

No manufacturer can afford to put a brand or a trade name on an inferior product. Anonymity is the only cloak under which the "just as good" product can be handled and sold. A brand name on a product is the best possible protection for the consumer because it automatically forces the maker of that product to maintain quality.

We have a word in this language, and it is not a pretty one, that we apply to nameless children. Do we want this same term applied to the products of America's farms and factories?

A "WAR-TIME" FIELD DAY

Excerpt from Field Day Folder

Never before has it been so necessary for food producers, governmental agencies, and distributors to get together to iron out difficulties experienced and anticipated. The war is moving on most rapidly and food production must keep abreast of conditions and trends, for a war well fought and won on the battlefield might easily be lost at home on the food front. The business aspect of the potato industry has become involved from production to harvesting, storing, and marketing. Every grower in order to do business intelligently must familiarize himself with every phase. Soil, seed, fertilizer—spray, diseases, insects—harvesting, storing, marketing—are jobs to be confronted in good time with courage, faith and intelligence. The growers' "Field Day" comes annually between rush seasons when families can best leave their operations for future maintenance and development of the industry. "Camp Potato" is the "Mecca" of all good growers for business and recreation. Although the "camp" is an ideal recreational center this phase of the "Field Day" will be decidedly secondary though it is admitted that recreation is necessary, even in these days, to morale.

Co-operation

To "co-operate" is "to so adjust your thinking and your actions that others can work with you." The Pennsylvania Co-operative Potato Growers' Association is so organized that all can and may co-operate for the improvement of the industry. It is a one-man, one-vote organization directed by nine men from nine producing areas of the state. Its function is to maintain an informed membership on production and marketing developments, to build a strong financial structure and to develop sufficient volume of business in order to carry on necessary services.

Co-operatives are generally "Children of Adversity," they developed because of necessity. This association saw the need of close co-operation for the good of the industry. During "Hard Times" many growers were benefitted no end—during prosperous times the need to co-operate is just as necessary and just as essential for adversity and prosperity are always just around the corner. It may easily be either. Which it shall be depends upon us—you and me.

The slogan for this association may well be "In Union There Is Strength"—in disunion there is confusion and chaos. Co-operatives are said to be on trial, this may be true, it is up to us as growers to stand together in a united front to speak plainly our thoughts and our needs. Nothing speaks more emphatically and with more authority than Union. The thought "United we stand or divided we fall" speaks out just as clearly and unmistakably today and tomorrow as it did yesterday.—C.F.H.W.

Co-operatives, to be worthy of that name, must be synonymous with democracy—they must be financed and controlled from the bottom, by the members, and not by an all-powerful state. Real co-operators do not want their institutions to be beholden to anyone; not to a philanthropic individual or to a state, for he who finances also controls.

NAMELESS CHILDREN

Continued from opposite page

MARKETING AND GRADING SCHOOLS

The season's first Marketing and Grade Supervisors' School at the farm of Harry Long, Pittsfield, Warren County, was declared very successful. More than fifty growers and grade inspectors were present to hear the speakers and to participate in the training school. County Agent O. C. Tritt presented R. B. Donaldson of Agricultural Extension, State College, and C. F. H. Wuesthoff, Executive Secretary of the Pennsylvania Co-operative Potato Growers Association.

Mr. Donaldson outlined briefly the state and national crop outlook and in the light of this analyzed 1943 marketing prospects. He stressed the necessity of properly grading and packaging Pennsylvania potatoes whether in war or in peace times. The tendency to let down on grades and quality when prices are up is most tempting but experiences of last spring made it plain that consumers and distributors are most alert to inferior potatoes. He also outlined ceiling and support prices as he saw them.

Secretary Wuesthoff's remarks were brief and to the point. He emphasized that the state association was a true co-operative and urged the participation of all members. The various activities of the association, namely; THE GUIDE POST, "Camp Potato," the Marketing Program, the Junior Growers, were explained. Mr. Wuesthoff told of his recent conferences in Washington on price ceilings and price floors and suggested that the marketing go on normally, allowing ceilings and floors to adjust themselves, for by the time the latter, particularly, is organized and functioning crops will have been moved into storage or sold. Dependence on agencies to do something will continue to confuse and stop normal movements.

Messrs. Donaldson and Pawson of the Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Marketing, conducted the grading demonstration school. They showed and explained to all growers what U. S. No. 1 meant. They illustrated and explained standard disqualifications and cautioned prospective local grade inspectors about being too exacting as well as too lenient, the former being a hardship on the producer while the latter being unfair to the consumer. Grade Supervisors have a big responsibility placed in their hands. Indifference and carelessness have no place in grading and packaging potatoes for it costs the producer too much in the end, expensive corrections and adjustments must be made, a market may be lost indefinitely, and a consumer may be soured.

It was pointed out that Grade Supervisors must be true—to themselves, to their employer, to their association, and to the consuming public.

The following were qualified or requalified as association local Grade Inspectors: Oscar Lauger, Youngsville; Harry Long, Pittsfield; Ed Leofsky, Garland; Homer Gibson, Warren; Ellsworth Reynold, Torpedo; Mrs. Carl Spelling, Bear Lake; Harold A. Martin, Torpedo; W. D. Finzer, Pittsfield; George Lauger, Youngsville; W. C. Leofsky, Garland; Homer Lindell, Akeley; Fred D. Madis, Youngsville.

Similar meetings are being held on the following dates:

Lancaster-Lebanon—Aug. 19th.
Somerset—Aug. 26th.
Schuylkill—Aug. 31st.
Lycoming-Clinton—Sept. 2nd.
Union-Northumberland-Snyder—Sept. 7th.
Lehigh-Northampton—Sept. 9th and 10th.
Columbia-Luzerne—Sept. 16th.
Erie-Crawford—Sept. 21st.
Venango-Mercer—Sept. 22nd.
Mercer-Butler—Sept. 23rd.
Chester—Sept. 28th.
York—Sept. 30th.
Cambria-Clearfield—Oct. 6th.
Centre-Blair—Oct. 14th.
Clarion-Jefferson—Oct. 19th.
Indiana—Oct. 20th.
Potter—Oct. 26th.

LANCASTER - LEBANON

A large grading school was held in Lancaster county on Thursday, August 19th at the farm of Jacob H. Harnish, attended by approximately 110 people. County Agent "Dutch" Bucher of Lancaster county presided. P. D. Frantz, former Association President, spoke about potato prospects in Pennsylvania and other states and described the work the association is doing to assist Pennsylvania growers in marketing their crops. He stated that the Allentown office had moved approximately one and one-half million "Blue Label" pecks in 1942 and twice as many could have been sold if they had been available. In concluding his remarks he stated that Pennsylvania growers should make every effort to regain their markets and that one of the surest ways to do so was through co-operating with the marketing set-up of their own Pennsylvania Potato Co-operative. He invited them to contact him with their marketing problems.

R. B. Donaldson, Marketing Specialist of the Agricultural Extension Service, discussed potato price ceilings and potato marketing conditions. He also started the explanation of the U. S. potato grades which was completed by D. M. James, Federal-State supervisor of inspection. The training and qualification of grade supervisors was handled by Mr. James.

Growers from a number of counties other than Lancaster were noted at the meeting, including Lehigh, Lebanon, York, and Chester. County Agent George Weber of York county and County Agent Berger of Lebanon also attended. An interesting feature of the meeting, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all present, was a demonstration of the tomato-picking machine in operation during the afternoon. This machine was used to pick a large field of potatoes and a large truckload of tomatoes, which were delivered to a nearby cannery.

THE POTATO AND GOOD NUTRITION

Continued from page 13

tered casserole, top with ¼ cup cheese and bake in moderate oven, 395° F. for 1½ hours.

Baked Potato With Egg

Cut top off large baked potatoes, remove inside. Put through ricer or mash; season. Return to shell, leaving a hole in center. Break an egg carefully on top and return to oven. Bake long enough to cook egg. Garnish with parsley.

Potato Fritters

2 c. mashed potatoes, 3 eggs beaten light, 1 c. flour, 2 tsp. baking powder, 1 tsp. salt, ½ tsp. pepper, fat for frying.

Beat eggs; gradually add potatoes (either hot or cold) and flour sifted with seasoning. Drop by spoonfuls into hot fat; cook to a golden brown, turning often. Drain on brown paper. Serve hot.

Baked Hash

1 c. chopped meat, 2 c. chopped boiled potatoes, 2 tbsp. butter, 2 slices onion.

Brown onion in butter in frying pan and remove. Add chopped meat and potatoes. Mix thoroughly. Cover and cook until heated, stirring occasionally. Then butter a bread pan. Pack hash in pan, pressing firmly. Bake in moderate oven about 20 minutes. Loose around edge of pan with knife and turn out on platter. This makes a perfect loaf.

Ann Bishop's "Dutch Fried Potatoes"

6 medium sized potatoes
3 level tablespoons fat
salt
1 tablespoon flour
¼ cup thin cream

Scrub and cook unpared potatoes until tender. Remove from water and cool. Remove skins and slice very thin.

Heat fat until hot in a skillet, add potatoes and salt to taste. Turn several times while frying over a medium fire; allow to brown only slightly (6 to 8 minutes).

Sprinkle flour over potatoes, and add cream. Stir quickly, remove from fire and serve immediately.

NOTE: Boiled potatoes may be kept in refrigerator for use at any time.

Served to and approved by Walter Bishop and I by his daughter-in-law—Ann Bishop.

SOLICIT SUGGESTIONS FOR THE 1944 "ANNUAL FIELD DAY"

Continued from page 8

All these suggestions are important and well taken and will be given definite consideration. There are surely many more. Members—what would you like to see or hear—put your "thinking caps" on and send to headquarters your constructive suggestions for the betterment of next year's Potato Growers' Field Day.—C. F. H. W.

"How did you happen to over sleep this morning?"

"There were eight of us in the house and the alarm clock was only set for seven."

THE JUNIOR-GUIDE POST

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Hustling-Cooperators



Left to right—Bill Bailey, Ben Bailey, Bud Bailey, Nickie Nixon all of State College and Arden Ramseyer of Smithville, Ohio.

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Junior Growers are always on the job at "Camp Potato"—always wanting to know what is to be done next. Five of the tireless workers this year were the Bailey boys and Nicky Nixon. These boys can do anything in the way of potato production and marketing. Planting, spraying, roguing, grading and packaging are done by them easily, efficiently and above all *willingly*.

GENIUSES

There may be some naturally born geniuses, but they are few. In most cases the word "genius" is composed of one part hooey and nine parts hard work Determination and perseverance carry far more men to success than natural aptitude or "pull."

YOUNG COOPERATORS! HERE'S YOUR JOB

"This country always produces the right man in an hour of peril," was quoted recently in a leading farm publication editorial, and the writer then asked, "but where is that man now?" The writer was referring to the confusion "compounded" on the food front.

We think the right man may be doing defense work, on the farm right now—one of our practically trained, clear-thinking, fearless, stable, non-glory seeking Young Co-operators, who may rise to fulfill the prediction that "this county always produces the right man."

JUNIORS

Harold Holmes of Waterford—a Junior Director of this association—is a busy man. He has taken over the old farm upon the passing of his father and from all reports is making a go of it. Meetings for Harold are out for the time being since he has more important and pressing matters in connection with the operation of his large mechanized farm. His vocational agriculture work is proving most valuable. He was one of the few boys in Pennsylvania to receive the American Farmer Degree in the F.F.A. after serving his chapter in every possible capacity.

FED-STATE INSPECTORS

Greatly increased inspection of canning crops and fruits for shipment have necessitated the training and use of many new inspectors this year. A considerable number of inspectors are still needed to handle the heavy fall work. Any who are interested in securing temporary work which may prove to be permanent for those who do better than average work should contact D. M. James, Bureau of Markets, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, to secure additional information and notice of the next training class.

"Boss" or "Teacher" of Unskilled Youth Labor

EXTENSION LABOR ASSISTANTS

The war has brought many problems to the farmer. Not the least of these is how to get the essential labor to bring about the necessary production for our armed forces, our allies, and ourselves.

Farmers alone are not faced with this problem. The war industries, the factories, the stores; in fact, almost every employer of labor has to face it.

Naturally, farmers as well as other employers of labor would like to have skilled or trained labor. If it is not available, then the next thing to do is to take what can be obtained and use it to the best advantage.

You know your farm, your tools, your livestock, your job. You know how you want things done. The untrained worker may not. He or she may be familiar with the city streets but not know the difference between a chicken house and a hog house. The "off" horse or the "near" horse, or "gee" and "haw" may have no meaning for him. So it will be with many things. He may do the wrong thing because he does not know or has not been told the right way. Then, also, it may seem simple and easy for you to follow all the steps in doing a job, but it ought to be pointed out step by step to him. That means organizing your thinking in regard to a particular job.

It's up to you to "sell" them as well as tell them—why food production is necessary, why you do a certain thing. Get them interested in the final results.

They may not have the endurance at first to do a full day's work, especially if it is doing the same thing. If possible, change their jobs during the day. A boy may gladly play ball during a hot afternoon until he is sweating and panting but may not be conditioned to pick up potatoes for three or four hours at a time. There are no cheering spectators in the potato field. You can cheer him up with a few sympathetic words, a little praise, and then, too, a little lemonade and possibly some cookies will work wonders along with a rest period.

Many boys and girls, men and women, are willing to do their part in the war effort by working on farms. This does not mean they do not care about money or that they should be underpaid. Many will have a genuine desire to help and that help should be accepted and used in the spirit in which it is offered. It's your job to plan ways in which it can be used; use trained or skilled people for those jobs which involve valuable machinery or livestock as far as possible; teach the best of the unskilled to do some of these jobs; use the untrained for the tasks that they can do with a minimum of training. It finally comes down to this: Treat them as you would want to be treated if you were in a strange place and had a new job.

Past experience of many farmers show that where the right conditions have been obtained and understood, good results will follow as a rule. There will be some "headaches" and adjustments, but these can be kept to a minimum with a proper understanding on both sides. The following suggestions are offered as a source of help to bring

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INTENTIONAL SECOND EXPOSURE

about this understanding between the farmer and his helpers.

SUGGESTIONS

1. Have a definite understanding before anyone starts to work as to hours of work and how much and when they are to be paid.

2. Remember that unskilled persons will not be so capable as trained workers but will be better than none.

3. Provide a trained supervisor or skilled worker to supervise a number of untrained workers. The number that one person can supervise will depend on the particular kind of work to be done.

4. Remember that there is much to learn on any new job; that what seems easy to you may seem difficult to others.

5. The value of untrained workers may depend not so much on what they know as on what they are willing to learn.

6. Give workers lighter jobs to do at first or shorter hours to work if they are not accustomed to doing manual labor.

7. Give workers a variety of jobs to do if possible.

8. Have a definite plan to interest persons in a particular job.

(a) Know the important points to emphasize.

(b) Find out what each worker knows.

(c) Take up one point at a time—tell, demonstrate, explain. Emphasize safe working habits. Have each person try it. Check and correct wrong working habits.

(d) Tell workers what to do in case something goes wrong or an emergency develops.

9. See that working equipment is in good order and *caution worker about hazards or accidents* that may happen.

10. Be firm but fair with workers:

(a) Don't make fun of them for not knowing how.

(b) Don't belittle their efforts.

(c) Don't criticize harshly or use profanity.

(d) Give praise for work well done.

(e) Don't play favorites or give all the undesirable work to any one group or individual.

Some Additional Suggestions for Using In-School Youth

1. Remember that most young people will probably act as your boy would act in new surroundings.

2. Untrained youth tire easily at monotonous work. If they are under 14, two hours per day while they are in school and 4 to 6 hours when they are not in school should be all they are asked to work. Older groups may work longer.

3. Some refreshments and a rest period in midmorning and afternoon will often be of great help.

4. Give them increased duties and responsibilities as they develop.

5. Many of them may be green, untried, but willing to work. This will involve considerable patience and sympathy on your part.

6. Doubly emphasize the need for safety, especially in handling tools and machinery and in working around animals.

7. If they are living in your family—

(a) Make them feel at home.

(b) Give them reasonable living quarters and food.

(c) If possible, provide games, reading material, and use of radio.

(d) Have an understanding as to time off for church, going to town, etc.

(e) Arrange some social events or see that they get a chance to take part in the social life of the community. Urge young people's groups, church, or Sunday school groups, to invite them to attend their meetings.

8. Don't forget that "boys are boys" and like to have some fun.

9. Don't forget that while they may be partially motivated by a desire to help in the emergency, they may be unacquainted with your way of life, the food you eat, and your viewpoints. Confidence needs to be gained and viewpoints understood.

10. Try to develop in them a sense of responsibility and respect for the job that will prevent carelessness, waste of time, and injury of crop or property.

PROUD: Pocono and Northeastern Potato Growers



1943 POTATO BLOSSOM QUEEN

Miss Carolyn McHenry, of Benton, Columbia County, with prominent Pocono Potato Growers and Roy Hess, contact man of the Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers Association. These men together grow over eight hundred acres of potatoes and market them cooperatively through the state association. Reading from left to right they are Robert Getz, Maurice Getz, Lawrence Gets, of Albrightsville; Lawrence Smale, Kunkletown; 1943 Potato Blossom Queen, Miss McHenry; Ralph Baumgartner, Kunkletown; Roy Hess, contact man, Stillwater; William High, Effort; A. T. Blakeslee, Blakeslee; and Elmer Meckes, Albrightsville.

The northeastern growers under the leadership of contact man, Roy Hess of Stillwater, marketed in the neighborhood of 500,000 Blue Pecks in the Scranton-Wilkes-Barre-Stroudsburg area. When the marketing season once begins these growers move in—maintain a steady flow to the market thereby guaranteeing themselves an orderly outlet. Blue Pecks and Blue Fifties are well known to consumers and are demanded by them.

ORDER YOUR BAG REQUIREMENTS . . .

in quantities as soon as you know your needs. Government paper buying and slow transportation might hold up deliveries.

STATE-WIDE JOINT MARKETING CONFERENCE HARRISBURG, SEPTEMBER ??

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STATE-WIDE JOINT MARKETING CONFERENCE HARRISBURG, SEPTEMBER ??

INTENTIONAL SECOND EXPOSURE

NEW AND RENEWAL MEMBERSHIPS

Most gratifying responses have been noted within recent months.

F. C. Behrens & Son, East Mauch Chunk
Mast Stoltzfus, Jr., Oley
Ray Hoffman, Catawissa
Theodore Hoffner, Morrisdale
Ray A. Briggs, Nescopeck
Ed Cutler, Shinglehouse
Gerald Stonemetz, Shinglehouse
Reva Kemp, Shinglehouse
Irwin E. Wells, Shinglehouse
Lester A. Troxell Est., New Columbia
E. G. Grim, Waynesboro
N. E. Dietrick, Reading
L. E. Thompson, Wattsburg
Don Stearns, Coudersport
A. T. Bradley, Whiteford, Md.
Robert Getz, Albrightsville
Stephen Westrick, Coatesville
Producers Cooperative Exchange, Coatesville
Lawrence Getz, Albrightsville
Samuel Geiger, Schnecksville
D. L. Crum, Meadville
Abram Gearhart, Greencastle
Ralph B. Ferry, Woodbury
W. E. Musser, New Bethlehem
Wm. W. Shoemaker, Walnutport
R. D. Gibson, Newfield
Amandus Beil, Northampton
Elmer Bachman, Northampton
Ross Beaver, Millerstown
C. H. Pepper, West Brownsville
Adam C. Yaggie, Roaring Branch
W. C. Holter, Lock Haven
T. R. Cain, Linesville
Alex Strittmatter, Ebensburg
Allen Prince, Shinglehouse
E. B. Dodd, Shinglehouse
Erwin Turner, Shinglehouse
Clemon Smith, Nescopeck
Stanley M. Hess, Northampton
Ceza Szilagyi, Bath
A. C. Harwood & Son, Wattsburg
Shorty Pepperman, Coudersport
Pvt. Donald Grubb, North Camp Hood. Texas
Chas. E. Beaver, Millerstown
Henry Embich, Loganton
Morris Getz, Albrightsville
Ralph Baumgardner, Kunkletown
M. V. Runkle, Felton
C. F. Krick, Paxinos
R. T. Wotring, Schnecksville
Dwight L. Grove, Shadygrove
John W. Warner, Indiana
C. E. Landon, Canton
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Bernard Wanamaker, Macungie
Jacob Dech, Bethlehem
Floyd Schafer, Bethlehem
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Carson Minich, New Bethlehem
F. A. Westrick, Patton
Frank A. Brooks, Bellefonte
Ralph A. Miller, Lynnport
L. Leon Myers, Jr., Indiana
Harry L. Zartman, Lebanon
John J. Petro, Catawissa
Paul Yahner, Patton
E. P. Huntington, Coudersport
H. W. Zimmer, Emporium
Lawrence L. Moyer, Emlenton
K. L. McCall, New Bethlehem
I. L. Brown & Son, New Bethlehem
John A. Sykora, Galeton
A. J. Donaldson, Emlenton
J. M. Hindman, Corsica
Francis Howard, Harrison Valley

"PUTS FIRST THINGS FIRST"

Statement by JUDGE MARVIN JONES, New War Food Administrator

Following his induction on June 29, Judge Marvin Jones, the newly-appointed War Food Administrator, issued the following statement:

In accepting the responsibilities of the Office of War Food Administrator, I do so with the firm belief that nothing is more important to the war effort and our domestic economy than a sound and acceptable food production and distribution program.

The wide variety of foods we produce and use; the growing amount needed for army, navy, and lend-lease; the increased purchasing power of our own people, combine to make the problem

Potatoes
Ought
To
Attract
The eye
Of
Every
Shopper

And your potatoes will attract customers when they are packed in HAMMOND'S strong, durable, well printed MULTI-WALL bags.

HAMMOND Better bags WELLSBURG, W.VA.

HAMMOND BAG & PAPER CO.
WELLSBURG, W. VA.

The Value of High Yield and Good Quality

This year as never before high yield and good quality in potato harvests are of greatest importance. A sound potato will be better able to stand adverse shipping conditions than a potato grown under unbalanced fertilizer conditions. Now is the time for growers to check their yields and quality against their fertilizer practices to see if these practices are producing desired results.

High yield and good quality mean that the potato crop could get all the potash it needed during the growing season. Potatoes are greedy feeders on potash. They use more of this plant food than nitrogen and phosphoric acid combined. Before the planting season, far-sighted growers check up on what their soils will supply and then make sure that the fertilizers they apply contain enough potash to carry the crop through. For a high yield of No. 1's there must be at least 200 lbs. of actual potash (K_2O) per acre available to the growing plants.

Check your harvests now. Consult your county agent or experiment station about the fertility of your soils. See your fertilizer dealer or manufacturer. You will be surprised how little it costs to apply enough potash to insure greater returns from your potato crop.

Write us for additional information and free literature on the practical fertilization of crops.

More Potash means More Profit

American Potash Institute

INCORPORATED

1155 16th ST., N. W. WASHINGTON, D. C.

difficult. And yet it must be met and solved.

This war is bringing home to the American people the importance of the farmer in our economy and the value of the products of his fields. Our farm people are doing a magnificent production job in this national crisis. Through long hours of hard work, and in spite of shortages of implements, repair parts, and labor, the farmer has stepped up production all along the line.

As I view the present picture, several things are needed:

1. A full allotment of materials for new machinery, supplies, repair parts, shelter and storage as well as processing facilities. This is being done but must be followed through and continued allocation assured.

The Food Administrator has the authority to present the farm machinery equipment needs to the War Production Board and if these needs are not met the Food Administrator has the right to appeal to the President. I intend to exercise that authority.

2. Farm labor has been and will continue to be a problem. There is a shortage of labor in all production lines but much has been done to keep sufficient help on the farms to produce and harvest our crops. I am confident this problem will be cared for. We must keep in mind, however, that war always creates a manpower shortage.

3. Production requires seed, feed, fertilizer, and credits. These essentials must be planned for well in advance of planting time.

4. A fair return must be assured the farmer for his production. This must be related to other prices in fairness to all.

There are other steps that need to be and will be taken. I expect to counsel with the representatives of farm organizations and also with representatives of industry as to the food program.

Full use should be made of state, county, and community organizations. Food is not produced in offices in Washington. It is produced in the far stretches of this big country. No program can be effective unless it has the support of the American people on a war-time basis.

There is talk about food shortages. This has created fear on the part of some of our people that they and their children may go hungry. We may not

Banner MICRO-MAG A Super Fine Hydroxide

Banner-Micro-Mag

Increases The Yield Of Potatoes

Increased yields of potatoes can be obtained where magnesium oxide is available to the plant. Feed nutritional magnesia through the leaf when spraying or dusting by using dual purpose Banner Micro-Mag.

Banner Micro-Mag contains 36% magnesium oxide. The specific surface area is 111,000 square centimeters per gram. Average particle size is 0.2 micron.

Banner Micro-Mag is packed in convenient 50 lb. multiwall paper bags. Handled by better dealers.

NATIONAL MORTAR & SUPPLY COMPANY

Grant Bldg. Pittsburgh, Pa.
Plant: Gibsonburg, Ohio

throughout the war have all we want and everything we prefer, but we will certainly have enough to assure a healthful diet.

Too little emphasis has been placed on one important fact—that American people today are eating more and better than ever before. Our civilian population is consuming ten per cent more food than during the five-year period prior to Pearl Harbor.

There is a limit to our capacity to produce. The demands are great. First of all we must supply those in our armed services. Our civilian population must be provided with an adequate diet; and to assure equal distribution, rationing of essential commodities must be maintained. We must bolster the food supplies of our Allies.

I have great faith in the patriotism of the American farmer and his determination to do his part in winning the war. I have spent the best years of my life in working for what I conceived to be the best interest of those who live on our farms. As War Food Administrator I expect to do the best job I can with the tools at hand. Conscious of my own limitations I ask the co-operation of all. I hope that those who are disposed to criticize will make their suggestions and then join the team.

If we work together, plan properly, and recognize the production and marketing problems of the farmer and the processing and distribution problems of the food industry, I am confident we can supply the necessary demands for food, provided, of course, that God in His infinite wisdom blesses us with good weather.

CONGRATULATIONS

to

John K. Merkey
OF LEBANON

and

Raymond Schrack
OF LOGANTON

Goes the honor of having moved the first Blue Label Potatoes for the 1943 Season.

ANNOUNCING . . .

THE NEW AUTOMATIC VICTORY POTATO BAG HOLDER

The Victory Bag Holder that Will Save You Time and Labor When Packing Your 50 Pound Paper Sacks.

FOR COMPLETE DETAILS WRITE THE

VICTORY BAG HOLDER
46-29 Douglaston Parkway, Douglaston, Long Island, New York

CUPROCIDE for potatoes...

Read what other growers say

1 "This is the second year I have used CUPROCIDE Dust on my 100 acres of potatoes with good results . . . aphid infestations are lighter compared with bordeaux . . . blight control is good."

Arthur V. Youngs

2 "CUPROCIDE Dust held my potato vines and controlled blight as well as bordeaux . . . this was a severe test as blight has been worse this season than for the past 15-20 years."

J. Dwight Reeve

3 "We applied CUPROCIDE Dust on 135 acres of potatoes . . . obtained good commercial control of blight . . . find CUPROCIDE Dust very satisfactory in either wet or dry season."

Carl and John Hohorst

4 "I have used Yellow CUPROCIDE spray on my potato acreage for two seasons. This past season I used CUPROCIDE on my entire 90 acres. It gave me excellent control of blight."

Gustaf A. Johnson

LOOK FOR THIS EMBLEM THIS DUST CONTAINS CUPROCIDE A FUNGICIDE MADE BY ROHM & HAAS COMPANY **WHEN YOU BUY DUST**

CUPROCIDE *is a trade-mark, Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.*

ROHM & HAAS COMPANY

WASHINGTON SQUARE, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

Manufacturers of Chemicals including Plastics . . Synthetic Insecticides . . Fungicides . . Enzymes . . Chemicals for the Leather, Textile and other Industries



DOUBLE DUTY!

The MacDougal Brothers, Avoca, N. Y. are farming a total of 600 acres, 300 of which are in potatoes, planted with a Farquhar Iron Age two-row high speed planter, and protected against insects and plant diseases by a Farquhar Iron Age tractor mounted duster. The duster has been in continual transit between their farm in Avoca, N. Y. and their farm in Virginia. During all this time, it has seen almost continual service.

Mr. MacDougal states that he has dusted 65 acres in one afternoon. His duster is mounted in such a way that it does not interfere with the cultivators on the tractor which he utilizes at the same time. He has equipped the duster with various speeds by use of interchangeable sprockets so that speeds can be varied for various weights of dust.

Production of Iron Age equipment is limited today by the war. However, you can secure vitally needed equipment by applying to your local ration board. To be sure you get the best specify . . . Iron Age.

ARMY E NAVY
AWARDED FEB. 8, 1943

Industry's flag of freedom waves in the air above the plants of the Farquhar Company . . . presented by the Army and Navy for outstanding production of war material.

Plant and Spray the IRON AGE Way



A.B. FARQUHAR CO., Limited, YORK, PA.

THE GUIDE POST

VISION PENNSYLVANIA GROWERS

VOLUME XX NUMBER 9



1943 POTATO BLOSSOM QUEEN
our
GOODWILL EMISSARY presiding at the
Eighth Annual Joint Marketing Conference

SEPTEMBER, 1943

Published by the

PENNSYLVANIA COOPERATIVE
POTATO GROWERS ASSOCIATION
INCORPORATED

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THE GUIDE POST

published by

The Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers Association, Inc. Williamsport

Volume XX **September, 1943** **Number 9**

A PROSPEROUS POTATO INDUSTRY

Conclusions After 25 Years of Experimentation, Demonstration and Observation

DR. E. L. NIXON

A Program leading to a profitable potato industry involves the consideration of *total crop production* concerned with—

1. Supply and demand—"not supply and manipulation" involving;
   - (a) The shift in dietary habits
   - (b) The economy of potatoes in relation to other foods
   - (c) The health and stamina building proclivities of the Potato
   - (d) The truth about food and food values
   - (e) Fads in the so called health foods
   - (f) Price fluctuations
   - (g) Diversion through processing and by-products
2. Total acreage involving;
   - (a) Per capita consumption
   - (b) Prosperity
   - (c) Depressions
   - (d) Food shortages
   - (e) Shifts in population
   - (f) Mass production and distribution
3. Land utilization involving;
   - (a) Erosion control
   - (b) High altitudes
   - (c) Rain fall—irrigation—drainage
   - (d) An economy based on scarcity through acreage control and price stabilization — voluntary or compulsory
   - (e) An economy based on the law of competition—"dog eat dog" or a survival of the most efficient
   - (f) An economy based on the equitable distribution of abundance of bona fide foods through mutual cooperation of business and agriculture city and country to the end that poverty and distress under nourishment and health disqualification in the midst of plenty may be eliminated.

Supply and Demand

It used to be said that supply and demand determined price. Manipulation by manipulators is a greater factor in the range of prices than supply. Speculative buying is never good for agriculture. Either producer or consumer or both suffer. What is needed is a steady flow of farm commodities equitably priced to the consumer. Given a chance there are very few farm crops produced in America that the consumer cannot dispose of with impunity. The aim of business and agriculture should be to equitably distribute the products of the farm without ruinous gluts and without equally ruinous prohibitive prices resulting in under nourishment to the extent of health jeopardy. It would be a sound educational program which would influence people to quickly shift their dietary habits as do the robins. How quickly the robin can go from fish worms in the spring to cherries in mid summer and to seeds in the fall.

The Diet of People

It took two centuries to change the people of Europe from grain to a potato

diet. Only then was it brought about as a result of starvation — the European wars and failures of the wheat crop. The potato has followed the Europeans and English speaking people to the ends of the earth. No other people have adopted the potato as a universal food. No fruit, no other vegetable is eaten as often by Anglo-Saxons.

People of whatever race who have acquired the potato eating "habit" find the potato to be the most palatable of all foods. Any one who is hungry or who has not developed a perverted appetite can eat the potato with impunity three times a day. There is a world of opportunity to extend the consumption of potatoes once the potato industry really feels the need to do so. China and India could eat the annual world's supply of potatoes in a half year and be better off in stamina and health.

The economy of the potato as a food

A bushel of potatoes at $2.50 will go further in feeding a hungry family and maintaining their stamina and well-being than any other food at present prices on the market. Potatoes are never a luxury. They are available the year round. They do not fluctuate very greatly in price except in actual food shortages.

Given a chance here is what the potato is capable of, in Ireland, a poor country for growing cereals, the population increased, after the potato was adopted as a food, from two million in 1785 to more than five million in eighteen years. It is recorded that ten thousand men with families in England and Wales who had been practically paupers before potatoes came into use were made self-supporting by it. It is recorded that cash from potato sales has paid off more farm mortgages and purchased more home conveniences and paid a higher per cent of farm taxes than any other farm commodity in Pennsylvania.

Per Capita Consumption

When processors and speculators of food commodities get in a jam they resort to advertising campaigns to stimulate consumption of the given commodity. With the advent of vitamins, hormones and the fabulous fountain of youth rejuvenation proclivities the gullible housewife gobbles up the B complexes along with the surplus, cost of advertising and all with the result that per capita consumption of potatoes falls off. Per capita consumption of potatoes in the country is destined to increase. It is only half as great as that of Europe and only a third or fourth as large as in some countries of Europe and at no apparent detriment to health in these countries. Someone will have to pay for this war. It will be done to a considerable extent by saving in the food bill. If it comes to this the potato will come into its own, for it is still the most palatable, satisfying, health and stamina building of all the foods produced by the American Farmer. It is the poor man's "bread" and the rich man's "health" food. These facts have never been exploited by paid advertising so that no costs but production and distribution costs have yet been added to the potato.

In the case of famine, or serious food shortages the potato is the most adaptable of all food crops, plant or animal, to alleviating the shortage.

Mass Production and Distribution

It is significant that 66,821 potato growers in the U. S. produce 226 million bushels and that 3,035,410 farmers produce only 177 million bushels. It is even more phenomenal that 1,390,840 farmers produce only 12,520,927 bushels — ten bushels per farm. This makes the potato the most universal crop grown except weeds.

The potato lends itself to mass production. Its modern culture utilizes massive and extensive machinery the most economically of all crops. It is a high investment crop. It is one that the large producer cannot afford to have fail so that his equipment and land must be adapted to timely operations. No other crop suffers so disastrously from neglect in timely operations as does the potato.

Land Utilization

Since the potato crop is a heavy investment crop, it requires high fertility to insure big yields or disaster stares the investor or grower in the face. For this reason *Erosion control* is paramount—the top soil—in fact, all soil—in successful potato growing must be conserved.

As time goes on high altitude and cool climate will be more carefully considered by the potato grower. He has to be pretty sure that better than a mediocre crop is to be had to insure his investment rich. A crop two or three years out of five is not enough for the mass producers of potatoes.

Dr. Fritch's motto was "A crop the rule, and failure the exception, and when a failure better than when the other fellow calls is good".

The Economic Axe

For a hundred years little was said or thought about acreage adjustment and price control. But when the mass producers of one area begin to encroach or be encroached upon by mass producers from other areas then right away protective tariffs, acreage adjustment and price control become the vogue. The economic axe is no longer operative. Neither the grower nor the area is content to let the law of the survival of the fittest operate. First let's try, they say, to make the commodity scarce by establishing grades so high that only a few can make them. When the consumer paid a premium or purchased by preference the off grades or ungraded then let's compel everybody to adjust the acreage and thus control prices again by creating scarcity.

Who has advocated equitable distribution of an abundance at equitable prices, not by legislation, or violence but by mutual cooperation to the end that poverty and distress either from scarcity or abundance may be eliminated?

A COMMUNITY STORAGE

Twin-Valley Farmers Exchange—Hegins, Pa.

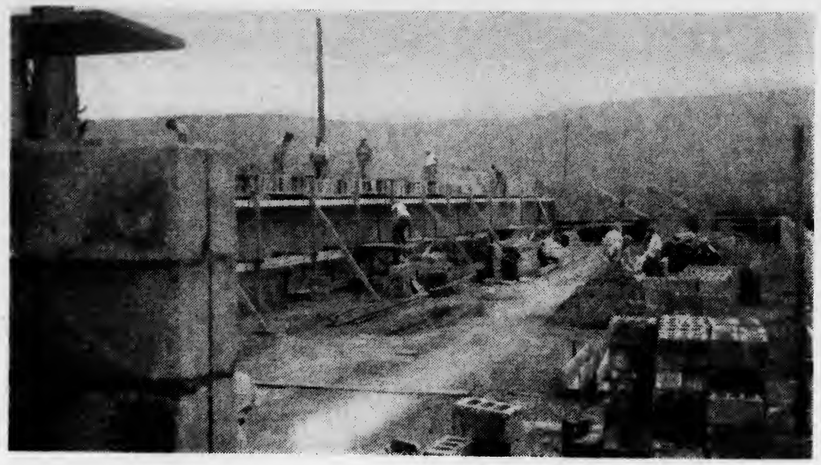


W. E. ESHELMAN,
Principal and Agri. Teacher

The writer served for three years as teacher of Agriculture in the Hegins Township Schools (1933-36). From 1936 until November 1942 he taught as Vo-Ag Instructor at Knoxville, Tioga County where a Future Farmer of America group project in cooperative marketing was established. When Dr. Nixon visited this setup in the spring of 1942 he suggested that this plan of packing and marketing should be introduced in a community more advantageously situated from the standpoint of produce and markets. As a result the writer immediately began to plan for a change of position and in November assumed the post of Principal and teacher of Vocational Agriculture in the Upper Mahanoy Township Schools in the Mahantongo Valley, Northumberland County. Living in Hegins and commuting daily I was soon able to interest both Hegins Valley and Mahantongo Valley potato growers in packing Association packs for stores in Minersville, Pottsville, Schuylkill Haven, Port Carbon, St. Clair, Frackville, Mahanoy City, Shenandoah, Girardville, Ashland, Mt. Carmel and Shamokin. By March of this year we were sold out of potatoes even though local growers had harvested a fine crop last season. The trouble seemed to center in the fact that many spuds were forced on the market in late October due to a decided lack of adequate storage facilities. Therefore a storage for local producers was deemed desirable as well as a central packing center which might serve to unify the marketing activities of the valleys.

In March a group of ten men consisting of seven potato producers two carpenters or contractors and the writer visited the storage of Hugh McPherson, York County and numerous storage buildings in Lehigh County. All seemed greatly impressed by the new addition to Roy Worring's storage and upon our return home plans were soon underway to build.

A site was purchased from "Potato Philosopher," John Schrope and in May a power shovel began excavation for a building 46 x 180 feet. After leveling the cellar floor, foundations were placed and masons engaged to lay up the concrete block walls. Twelve inch blocks were used for the first eight feet and eight inch blocks for the final four feet. The four inch offset resulting being the



The walls are "Going Up"—12" x 12" Concrete block with upper 4'—8" x 12" Block.—Early in July.

foundation for rafters used in holding the straw loft. A local sawyer cut the necessary timber and carpenters began setting the framework about July 20. You will note the numerous uprights on the accompanying photos. Please keep in mind that all these timbers are necessary to hold the bins. (Information relative to size of bins etc. will appear in the next issue of the Guidepost). Fine progress was made on the carpenter work and by August 10 the building was under roof.

On the morning of August 13 (Friday the thirteenth) a bulldozer began filling in along the walls and about eleven o'clock a very severe cavein occurred along the east wall (Refer to photo). This delayed work for one week while the damage was cleaned up and the wall reset. Moral — FILL IN AGAINST BLOCK WALLS A BIT AT A TIME AND REINFORCE INSIDE WALL.



Notice:—Numerous uprights are necessary for individual bins. Local lumber was used.



Double rafters—Roof and straw loft
Notice the welded mesh wire upon which 4' of wheat straw will be placed to absorb excess moisture.

The bins are now completed and the straw loft is being finished even though we encountered much difficulty in obtaining wheat straw. Twenty-five tons were necessary to pack the roof four feet deep. The straw was placed by blowing through a threshing machine.

As this item is written on September 14th. the first thousand bushel bin is being filled by John Dieter and Sons.

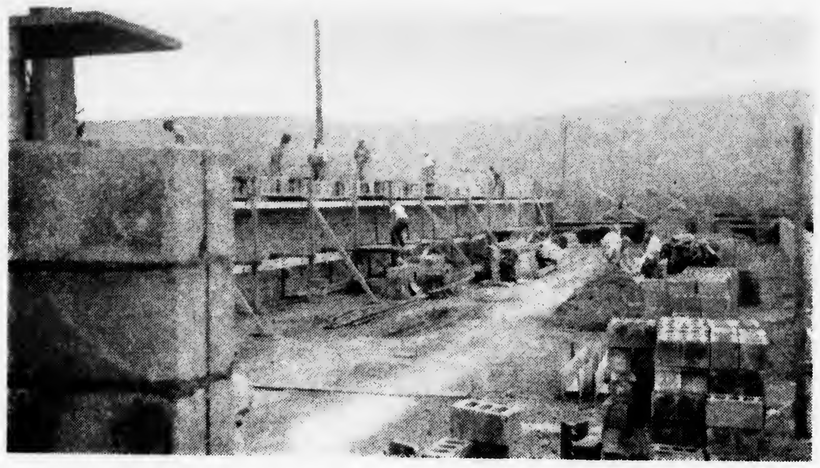
Next month we will discuss the management of this new Community Storage and attempt to point out its advantages.

The Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers Association feels that storages such as this one are needed in many communities throughout our state.

Editor's Note:—Community Storages and Central Warehouses are a "Crying need" in Penna. to assure the orderly flow of potatoes to market.



The "Cave In"—Friday the 13th. See the text for the lesson involved.



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INTENTIONAL SECOND EXPOSURE

1943's JOINT MARKETING CONFERENCE

Reported Decidedly Worthwhile

The Eighth Annual Joint Marketing Conference of Producers, Cooperators and Distributors held at the Penn Harris Hotel, Harrisburg, Tuesday, September 21st, was considered most successful. Producers, inspite of difficult times, came from all sections of the state to represent their industry while the distributors were well represented by many important executives of the largest buying companies. Those present were: Atlantic Commission Company, American Stores, Kroger Grocery & Baking Co., Weis Foods, and Food Fairs.

Messrs. M. P. Whitenight, president of our association and Fred W. Johnson, President of the Pennsylvania Chain Store Council, were co-chairmen of both afternoon and evening sessions.

After the chairmen introduced and presented important officials, executives and directors, they proceeded to the business of the day which was to discuss timely problems. The first problem, "The Roll-back of Prices" was ably presented by Ray Wenker, of the Philadelphia Vegetable Growers Association. Mr. Wenker explained the complications that arise from a roll-back of prices from the standpoint of 1944 production and present attitude of growers on subsidies. He repeated that we farmers do not want subsidies and constant interference. At the suggestion of the group a committee, consisting of Ray Wenker, Hugh McPherson, and L. O. Odhner, was appointed to report later on a resolution in regard to Roll-backs.

Noah Hershey of the Producers Co-operative Exchange, Coatesville, and P. Daniel Frantz, of Pennsylvania Co-operative Potato Growers Association, discussed very plainly the problems involved in the present day assemblying and marketing of farm produce. They particularly stressed the fact that efficient and capable labor on the farm was impossible to secure which meant that the movement of produce to market would be materially slowed up. Quality products were emphasized even though the public seemed rather lenient during this war emergency. It was agreed that the public would not forget their friends after the emergency.

Glenn Boger, Manager of the Lehigh Valley Cooperative Dairy Association, discussed very capably the matter of cooperative management. He brought out his subject very clearly, What Made a Cooperative "Tick." Mr. Boger stressed efficient management and returns to members and felt an informed membership just as important as patronage dividends.

The Twin Valley Farmers Exchange was explained by W. E. Eshelman, its spark plug. This project involving a 46' x 180' potato storage and a thorough marketing program was cleverly presented. Experiences were cited and results to date announced. This exchange is taking over the supplying of 15 towns in his immediate vicinity with eggs, potatoes and apples, grown, graded and packed in the Hegins and Mahatongo Valleys.

The Evening Session

The Joint Conference was the guest of the Pennsylvania Chain Store Council at an elaborate 6:00 o'clock dinner with Messrs. Johnson and Whitenight presiding cooperatively. The 1943 Potato Blossom Queen, Miss Carolyn McHenry of Columbia County, was presented to the group by Co-chairman Johnson. Miss McHenry spoke to the group and presented Secretary Miles Horst with a new seedling discovered and developed at Camp Potato, the association's experimental and demonstration farm in Potter County. Secretary Horst responded with most appropriate remarks.

Mr. Johnson introduced R. N. Benjamin to the group at which time the latter made a stirring appeal to Distributors and Producers to continue relationships as of the past. Cooperative Marketing said Mr. Benjamin, is at the cross-roads and that now of all times is the time to prove its worth to the world, Black Markets, Subsidies and Incentive Payments notwithstanding. The policy of depending upon a benevolent government for guidance and relief was thoroughly denounced as undemocratic and un-American. It was agreed by many listeners that Mr. Benjamin made one of the best and most stirring addresses of his career. He did not mince matters but rather faced them boldly and determinedly.

The second address of the evening was made by C. E. (Chick) Noyes of the Williamsport Community Trade Association. Mr. Noyes outlined his attitude toward business and farmer relationships. Dinners, Banquets, Speeches, are now things of the past in Lycoming County, it is action now or nothing for the long time good of all producers and businessmen in the area.

Past President, R. W. Lohr, a large potato and turkey producer of Somerset County gave a review of the Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers Association since its beginning in 1924. Mr. Lohr singled out many amusing incidents occurring in the years past. He pointed to the various milestones that the association has successfully met. The most outstanding one was in 1936 when the association decided to launch into a marketing program as well as an educational one. Some of the immediate problems at that time were recalled to the group.

Co-chairman Johnson after a few quick introductions and presentations, called upon Chain Store Agricultural Counselor, Dr. E. L. Nixon, for a few remarks. Mr. Nixon insisted that this conference was decidedly the best yet and was a GUIDE POST indeed to further endeavors. He called the conference's attention to "Camp Potato," The GUIDE POST, the Junior Growers and the Marketing Program, results of years of hard work for directors officers and cooperators. He appealed to growers to stand by their association and pointed out how easily the potato industry might fall back into the confusions of 10 years ago. The Doctor explained the new seedlings and their potential possibilities to the industry.

The following is the detailed program presented to the conference:

THE EIGHTH ANNUAL
JOINT MARKETING CONFERENCE
PENN HARRIS HOTEL, HARRISBURG, PA.
September 21, 1943
PARLOR A — 2:00 P.M.

Co-Chairmen — Fred W. Johnson, President, Pennsylvania Chain Store Council
M. P. Whitenight, President, Pennsylvania Co-operative Potato Growers Association

Introductions and Presentations.

The Problems and Discussion

The Price Roll-Back
Ray Wenker, Manager, Philadelphia Vegetable Growers' Assn.

Problems of Assembling and Marketing Farm Produce
Noah Hershey, Manager, Producers Co-operative Exchange
P. Daniel Frantz, Branch Manager, Penna. Co-operative Potato Growers Association

What Makes a Successful Co-operative "Tick"?
Glenn Boger, Manager, Lehigh Valley Co-operative
Merle Ream, Manager, Somerset Farm Bureau

The "Spirit" Behind Community Co-operation
W. E. Eshelman, Manager, Twin Valley Farmers Exchange

ASSEMBLY ROOM—DINNER 6:00 *P.M.*

Presentation of the 1943 Potato Blossom Queen

Address—Pennsylvania's Agriculture at the Cross Roads—R. N. Benjamin, Penna. Farm Bureau Cooperative.

Address—Importance of Buyer-Producer Co-operation — C. E. Noyes, Williamsport, Chamber of Commerce.

Address—The Pennsylvania Co-operative Potato Growers in Retrospect—R. W. Lohr, Past President of Penna. Co-operative Potato Growers.

CERTIFIED
SEED POTATOES

Inquiries solicited for carloads and less size B Main Katahdins and Sebagos and other varieties out of Certified Maine fields. Also North Dakota stock. Spring shipment.

Agent for—
Bansei-edible Soy-bean.

ED. A. TREXLER
Trexler, Pa.

BLACK MARKET DEALING SCORED AT CONFERENCE

A Professional Reporter's Report

HARRISBURG, PA., SEPT. 21—The good will and confidence built up between producers and distributors through years of mutual co-operation can be destroyed over night if producers succumb to the lure of the black market, Roland N. Benjamin, secretary of the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau Co-operative Association, said tonight.

Speaking at a dinner at the Penn Harris Hotel which wound up a marketing conference called jointly by the Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers Association and the Pennsylvania Chain Store Council, Benjamin cautioned the growers to "stick to your regular customers" and remember that these are the customers they will have to deal with when the war emergency is over and the farm picture returns to normal.

Benjamin also told the producers and the distributors that there was no use in heaping criticism on the government for their dilemma.

"If you want to see who is responsible for the trouble we are having with the government, well, look in the mirror," he said. "The things we don't want now are things we were asking for a few years ago. It is not paternalism but individual initiative through the co-operatives that will cure our ills."

Presiding at the dinner was Carolyn J. McHenry of Benton who recently was crowned "Potato Blossom Queen" at Camp Potato in Potter County.

The conference was called for the purpose of giving the producers and distributors a chance to discuss their mutual problems and to hear talks from leaders in the food field. Speakers at the afternoon meeting were M. Percy Whitenight, of Bloomsburg, president of the Potato Growers Association; Fred W. Johnson, president of the Chain Store Council; Ray Wenker, manager of the Philadelphia Vegetable Growers Association; Noah Hershey, Coatesville, manager of the Producers Co-operative Exchange; P. Daniel Frantz, Allentown, branch manager of the Potato Growers Association; Glenn Boger, Allentown, manager of the Lehigh Valley Co-operative; Merle Ream, manager of the Somerset County Farm Bureau; W. E. Eshelman, Hegins, manager of the Twin Valley Farmers Exchange.

Speaking at the evening meeting besides Benjamin were: C. E. Noyes, of the Williamsport Chamber of Commerce; R. W. Lohr, Boswell, past president of the Potato Growers Association; Miles Horst, State Secretary of Agriculture, and Dr. E. L. Nixon, agricultural counsellor of the Pennsylvania Chain Store Council.

Dr. Nixon told of a new variety of potato developed at Camp Potato near Coudersport which yields as high as 700 bushels to the acre. He said that not only was the new variety capable of high yield but has indicated resistance to most diseases common to the tuber. Some of these potatoes, now known only as HU23, were presented to Horst by Miss McHenry.

For Victory

IT TAKES BOTH

1. Taxes 2. War Bonds

Plus More War Bonds

THE "PIT" STORAGE

J. B. R. Dickey—Pennsylvania State College Extension

Unless one has an unusually good storage cellar the best method of keeping seed potatoes firm and dormant until planting time is to bury them under alternate layers of straw and earth. Seed so stored has yielded 60 bushels more per acre than potatoes from the same lot kept in an unheated house cellar. Where regular storage facilities are inadequate or unsatisfactory for holding table stock over the winter, it may also be pitted without expense or excessive labor.

Careful attention to the following points should insure keeping potatoes safe from frost and cool enough to remain in a dormant condition until the middle or last of May anywhere in the state:



Paul Hamilton, Potter County, pitted 6000 bu. in 1942. Picture taken April 21, 1942. The pit is carefully uncovered. This is an ideal way to store SEED POTATOES.

1. Do not pit potatoes until they are *as cold as it is safe to have them.* Warm potatoes, buried in warm soil, will stay warm and soon begin to sprout, deteriorate and rot. Pitting potatoes as they are dug is seldom satisfactory. If this must be done, they should be covered with vines only and left until there is danger of freezing, and until all heat has escaped from the pile, before being permanently covered. If one waits too long freezing ground may interfere with covering with earth. One should bear in mind that potatoes should be kept at a temperature *below* 40 degrees and that if well covered, they will not get much cooler during the winter. If sprouting starts the temperature tends to rise. Potatoes which have been shipped or trucked should cool out thoroughly before being pitted.

2. Locate the pit on a well drained situation with sufficient slope so that water will not lie in it. A north slope or on the north side of a woods will stay cooler in the spring. If too close to buildings, rats and mice may be troublesome.

3. A long, narrow pit is easiest to dig and to get the potatoes into and out of. If not over 4 feet wide there is less danger of internal heat developing and no need for ventilation. There is no point to going over 8 or 10 inches deep, potatoes have been pitted entirely above ground. Much of the soil can be plowed out or removed with a small scraper. The loose soil should be plowed or thrown back a foot from the edge of the pit. A pit 4 feet wide and 10 inches deep will hold 4 or 5 bushels per foot of length and can be made as long as nec-

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INTENTIONAL SECOND EXPOSURE

essary. Straw in the bottom of the pit serves no useful purpose and interferes with convenient removal of the potatoes.

4. The potatoes are put into the pit and piled up as high as they will lie without rolling out. Some run the potatoes over a grader before pitting and bury the first and second sizes separately. Grading removes some of the dirt on the potatoes and gives an opportunity to get out any tubers showing rots which will cause trouble in the pit. When ready for the final covering, about a foot of dry straw is put on and covered with 3 or 4 inches of earth. On top of this is put another foot of straw and 6 inches of earth. The straw should be drawn out well from the pit at the ground line to prevent frost entering through the undisturbed soil. The ends of the pit are covered in the same manner. A few furrows may be plowed around the pit, 6 or 8 feet away, to give loose soil for covering and to carry off surface water.

5. The final layer of soil should be packed with the back of a shovel. Cracks may develop for the first week or two through the settling of the straw, and must be filled.

Ventilators are not needed in a 4 foot pit and may be a source of trouble. Pits should never be covered with manure since it heats and warms up the tubers. Two layers of straw and soil are needed to prevent freezing and to keep the potatoes cool as the weather warms up in the spring.

Dr. O. H. Elmer, of the Kansas State College botany department makes these suggestions on how to keep potatoes from spoiling:

Potatoes should be dug as soon as the vines die. Dig the crop when the leaves of the plants are brown, but do not wait until the main stems are all dead. Don't depend on a heavy weed growth to shade the ground so digging of potatoes may be delayed.

Spoilage of potatoes can be prevented through proper methods of handling and storage. Rather than throw potatoes about as though they were stones, handle them as carefully as eggs. Avoiding bruising and other injury is the first essential step in giving the tubers a chance to remain sound.

Keep harvested potatoes dry and cool. Dig and pick them up during the cool of the day, preferably in the morning. Take them to the shade before the sun heats them. Dry them thoroughly, sort out injured and any other tubers you do not wish to store, and then place the remainder in a cool, dry storage. Root cellars and other underground storage areas should be kept as cool as possible by ventilating during the night and closing the windows during the day. The ideal way to store potatoes, especially during the summer is in artificially cooled storage. Such storage is available in many towns and is very much worthwhile. Temperatures should be kept at from 40 to 50 degrees Fahrenheit.

THEIR DAY: It would have been a nasty day for the customer in Roy, Montana, if there had been one. The blacksmith wasn't around. The barber had hung up his "gone for the day" sign. The restaurant was closed. So was the mercantile firm. Even the town bartender was absent. Everybody was helping harvest farm crops.

Potato Grade Supervisors who have been trained to inspect potatoes may now qualify as Federal-State Inspectors and secure employment with the Federal-State Inspection Service, D. M. James, Supervising Inspector, has announced.

Buy More War Bonds

and Stamps

★

The Fellow

who does not have any problems and worries these days must be mighty lonesome

★

ALBERT C. ROEMHILD
Commission Merchant
Phone, Lombard 1000

122 Dock St., Philadelphia 6, Pa.

COOPERATIVE MARKETING AND GRADING SCHOOLS

The ambitious marketing and grading school program launched jointly by Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers, Pennsylvania Extension Service and the Department of Agriculture, is on the home stretch. Ten sessions have been held with eight to ten more to go. Interest and attendance is most gratifying. On the average 15 have taken the inspectors training work at each meeting, some are new applicants but the majority are old local Grade Inspectors, brushing up on standard requirements for Blue Label Pecks and U. S. No. 1 potatoes.

Instructors Messrs. Wuesthoff, Donaldson, James and Frantz, expressed themselves as very well pleased with responses. The attendance has varied from 20 to 110 with everybody most interested. Crop prospects, Ceilings, Rollback threats, grades and supervisors' responsibilities are thoroughly discussed together with the aims and purpose of the Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers Association from the standpoint of the Marketing Program, "Camp Potato", The GUIDE POST, and the Junior Growers Association.

The following county meetings are still to be held:

September 23rd, Mercer & Butler Co. at John McDowell Farm, Mercer.

September 24th, Crawford & Erie Co. at C. W. Billings Farm, Edinboro.

September 28th, Chester Co., at Producers Cooperative Exchange, Coatesville.

September 30th, York Co., at Hugh McPherson Farm, Bridgeton

October 6th, Cambria-Clearfield Co.

October 13th, Center-Clinton Co.

October 19th, Clarion and Jefferson Co.

October 20th, Indiana Co.

October 26th, Potter Co.

November 5th, Venango-Mercer Co.

SEASONAL ADVICE FOR GRADE SUPERVISORS

A series of grading schools is being held in various sections of the state to train new grade supervisors and to refresh those already licensed as to the best procedure to follow in the work of passing Blue Label potatoes for market delivery. At the schools held thus far, the attendance and interest have both been excellent. It is to be hoped that the affect of these meetings will be carried through to a successful season of potato marketing with a minimum of rejections.

With an unusually dry growing season, most lots of potatoes are showing some scab. Grade supervisors should be on the alert for this defect and thoroughly acquainted with the amount of scab permitted in the U. S. No. 1 grade. Likewise, the defect called Russet Scab is also prevalent in many sections of the state. Although not as serious as Common Scab, all grade supervisors should be familiar with the amount of this Russeting permitted.

In order to assist grade supervisors to do a thorough and reliable job the following precautions are listed.

1. Thorough inspection means actually determining the percentage of defects in any given lot. This can *only* be determined by opening sufficient bags in the lot and by examining every potato in the bag for defects. Inspection *does not* mean a casual examination of the potatoes as they pass over the grading machine.
2. Use your knife frequently. Defects such as Stem End Discoloration, Wire Worm Injury, Hollowheart can hardly be determined without cutting. Also it is necessary to cut frequently to determine what constitutes 5% waste allowed in the U. S. No. 1 grade.
3. Particular care must be exercised

(Continued on page 16)

THE GUIDE POST

Published monthly by the Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers,' Inc.

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Single Copies—25 cents

All communications should be addressed to C. F. H. Wuesthoff, Executive Secretary, Williamsport, Pennsylvania.

PENNSYLVANIA'S 400-BUSHEL CLUB

In spite of adverse growing conditions in some sections of the state, high yields are being reported. Growers are urged to try to quality for the 400-Bushel Club Medal and Honors. Obtain blank and instructions from this office, County Agents Office, or refer to pages 24 and 25 in the July issue of the GUIDE POST.

OPA-ROLL-BACK

Food Price Savings, 2% Living Cost Cut, Ordered by OPA

A new Office of Price Administration program to cut back the cost of living at least 2.3 per cent. by lowering retail prices on apples, oranges, onions, potatoes, lard, vegetable oils and peanut butter was disclosed by Chester A. Bowles, general manager of the OPA. He told reporters that the objective would be attained by subsidizing transportation costs where necessary and by a purchase and sales program at an overall cost of about $100,000,000 annually.

Translated into specific terms, the program aims at cutting 17 per cent. from the current retail prices of apples, bringing the price down to 8.75 cents a pound. The price, however, will be subject to seasonal fluctuations and may rise two cents or more in winter, he said.

The price of onions will be set at six cents a pound, compared with a general current average of 8 cents. Mr. Bowles said. Oranges will sell at an "Annual average" of 9.7 cents a pound, compared with the current price of 11.2 cents. Transportation costs will be subsidized to keep the price on oranges down, he added.

A *"general average price"* of *3.5 cents a pound* is sought for potatoes, which are now selling around 4 cents, according to Mr. Bowles.

A slash to 26.5 cents a pound is contemplated for peanut butter, which is now selling at 33.3 cents a pound, Mr. Bowles said. Reductions of 1 cent a pound in prices of lard and of shortening other than lard also are contemplated. The prices planned for peanut butter, lard and shortening, he said, will be top prices.

Mr. Bowles revealed also that his office was now at work on an over-all program of price control for winter fruits and vegetables to bring costs to consumers down at least 15 per cent. from last winter's levels. The program would involve some form of subsidies, he added, and was extremely complicated since prices would have to be set on a regional basis. Despite its complications, he said, the task must be tackled because of the effects which unrestrained prices would have on the cost of living.

"Last winter prices on fresh fruits and vegetables went up 60 per cent. When

translated into food costs in general, this advance meant a rise of 12 per cent, which, in turn, drove over-all living costs up 6.2 per cent.", Mr. Bowles continued. "If we are to achieve a roll-back of living costs to September 15, 1942, levels, and I am convinced we shall, we must prevent a repetition of last winter's advances."

The program for fruits and vegetables, he said, would have to be all-embracing, including even such items as "Persian melons," because if prices of choice fruits were not controlled, growers would be able to pay higher wages and thus draw off workers from farms devoted to more esssential foodstuffs.

Subsidy payments would be necessary, he said, and would have to be used skillfully to make the program work. He refused to specify the amount of money he would seek from Congress for the project but he said it would be necessary to ask for some funds. He suggested that the subsidy payment be called "production bonus" rather than subsidy.

The control of prices of oranges, apples, potatoes, and the other items, he explained, was being accomplished with funds partly drawn from the Commodity Credit Corporation, from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, and from the funds which were available to the OPA for use on a roll-back of coffee prices, before that project was abandoned. Funds will have to be obtained from Congress, however, for much of the fruit and vegetable control plan.

IRISH POTATO LOAN PROGRAM

"The War Food Administration today announced a loan program for Irish potatoes. The purpose of the program is to insure growers of returns in accordance with the support prices announced prior to planting time and to assure the orderly distribution of this year's record crop. Under the program non-recourse loans will be made to growers, cooperative associations and to dealers who pay the support prices for potatoes they purchase.

"Potato production is now forecast at 460 million bushels. 90 million bushels above last year and 100 million bushels above the previous 10-year average. Approximately 113 million bushels of this year's crop will have been disposed of by September 1, and 250 million bushels will remain to be sold after that date. The quantity available for consumption after September 1 will be 70 million bushels above normal.

"If the crop turns out to be as large as now indicated, consumers will be assured of ample supplies of potatoes at moderate prices throughout the year. In some areas the crop may exceed the availability of frost-proof storage. In view of the lower prices and large supplies at digging time, consumers will be urged to stock up on potatoes in the fall. This will assure consumers of adequate supplies for their winter requirements and will relieve the country storage situation. The loan program should encourage producers to harvest and store as large a quantity as possible for distribution during the winter and spring months.

"Loans will be based on the support prices announced for each producing area last spring. Loans will be made to growers and cooperative associations on potatoes in approved warehouses at the local support price for the fall months less 35 cents per hundred pounds to cover the costs of grading, sacking, and loading on board cars. The loans will be on field run potatoes at rates adjusted for the percentage of U.S. No. 1 quality potatoes in the lot. To cover storage costs and losses the support prices will be increased above the fall rates by 20 cents per hundred pounds on December 1 and by an additional 10 cents per 100 pounds on January 1. Dealers and shippers who buy from growers at the support prices during the fall and winter months will be given non-recourse loans based on the support prices. All loans will be callable in whole or in part on demand and a sufficient volume will be called from time to time to insure the movement of the 1943 crop by the time the 1944 crop becomes available.

"Lower grade potatoes will be diverted into starch and flour in areas having such processing facilities. The quantities to be thus diverted will depend upon the storage situation and upon the requirements for these byproducts. By operating starch and flour plants at capacity, it will be possible to utilize directly in the war effort potatoes which might otherwise be wasted.

"The program is designed to assure the orderly marketing of potatoes throughout the year by avoiding too rapid absorption of abundant supplies during

(Continued on page 16)

SEASONAL ADVICE FOR GRADE SUPERVISORS

(Continued from page 13)

by grade supervisors that Soft Rot or Wet Breakdown be held to the absolute minimum. Where Freezing Injury or Blight Rot develops, it is especially difficult to keep within the 1% tolerance allowed.

4. Be sure that your grader is sizing properly and that your Blue Labels meet the size requirements as follows: not over 5% under 2 inches, not over 10% exceeding 16 ounces, at least 50%, 2¼ inches or larger. If you do not have metal sizing rings they can easily be cut from wood or heavy cardboard. Sizes needed are 2 inch, 2¼ inch and 1½ inch for U. S. No. 1, size B.

5. Grade supervisors should see that the proper weight is in the bags. If the exact weight is put in the 15 or 50 pound bag at the time of packing, it will surely be short when it arrives at the market. A few ounces extra is necessary at time of packing, depending on the season of the year as to the exact amount, in order to insure full weight in the market.

6. Grade supervisors must exercise sound judgment at times to advise against the attempt to pack Blue Label potatoes from bins which contain very inferior stock. It takes a fairly good crop from the field to make a good Blue Label pack. It is not wise to advise packing Blue Labels when it is too costly or if it is impossible to determine the defects which should be removed as they are passing over the grading table.

7. Grade supervisors should contact their Asso. office or their County Agents in case they run into any difficulties or need additional instructions.

FOR SALE—One row International power take-off digger—in good condition—extension elevator and three speed transmission.

G. L. Allen, Wysox, Pa.
Bradford County

IRISH POTATO LOAN PROGRAM

(Continued from page 15)

the harvesting seasons. In the event that it becomes necessary to move the potatoes into consumption channels without deterioration, the War Food Administration reserves the right to permit redemption below the loan value. In that event, the Office of Price Administration is prepared to modify its regulations to assure that consumers benefit in any reduction of price. War Food Administration officials emphasize that the purpose of this program is to make available ample supplies of potatoes the year round at reasonable prices to the consumer and, at the same time, fulfill the Government's commitment on support prices to the growers."

GRADES & MARKING

Grades—The Pennsylvania Grades for Grapes, Potatoes, Apples and Peaches shall be identical in their requirements with the standards established by the Secretary of Agriculture of the United States, commonly known as "United States Grades."

Markings—The use of tags or labels shall be optional with the packer, but whenever used all markings required by Section 3 of the Act, to wit:

The grade,

The contents in cubic measure, weight or count,

The name and address of the person or association under whose authority the packing is done, must appear on such tags or labels.

Tag, Labels, Brands — Marking shall be done in type not smaller than ⅛ inch high. The markings may be on lids of baskets or hampers, on tops or ends of boxes and stamped or printed on bags.

Tags may be attached to bags or other containers. In using second-hand containers or lids all original markings of grade or of identification shall be removed. When the container is a branded bag, it should be inverted inside out.

All markings shall be plain and legible, and may be printed, may be done by hand with printed letters, or with rubber stamps.

FOR SALE—McCormick-Deering 1-row potato digger — power take-off with rubber tires—used very little.
Pelech Bros., Williamsfield, Ohio.
(1 mile south of Simons)



WHICH shall it BE?

It is up to US!

★ ★ ★



THE JUNIOR-GUIDE POST

Pennsylvania Junior Cooperative Potato Growers Assn.

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Annual Membership—$1.00 which includes 12 issues of The GUIDE POST.

Single Copies—25c.

All communications concerning the Junior Cooperative Potato Growers' Association should be addressed to either Secretary, Daniel W. Keener, Neffs, Penna., or C. F. H. Wuesthoff. Gen'l. Manager, 410 Campbell St., Williamsport, Penna.

WHAT CAN CO-OPS DO?

What can the co-ops do about helping farmers keep out of the black market?

For years the cooperatives of the country have been proud of the fact that they have kept their membership informed of all activities. Co-op policy has been, "no secrets from members." Why in this critical period should the co-op not go to its membership and keep it informed of what will happen if price ceilings and rationing orders are not obeyed?

Surely the co-ops in carrying on an educational program against black markets, are reaching a most patriotic audience. Farmers as a group are perhaps the most patriotic in the country. To prove this we need only look to the number of farm boys who could easily have been deferred, who are serving in uniform. And farmers have learned the value of cooperation in their own co-ops!

Cooperatives can use their regular educational channels in keeping farmers informed on these current marketing problems. The problem in some areas where cooperatives are losing business to black markets might warrant a circular letter to each individual member of a co-op, setting forth clearly the results of such a program if a large number of farmers, greedy for these extra black dollars, should participate.

Many cooperatives can use their house organs to tell their members about rationing and price ceilings and current changes. Others can take advantage of their annual meetings and meetings with members, when they deliver products, to keep them informed.

Today, when farmer's incomes are the highest on record, is a good time to consider the post war years. No one expects high prices to remain indefinitely. They never have. In periods of low prices, an efficient marketing system is of vital importance. Then it is essential that every product get to market with the least possible expense.

Are a few extra black market dollars worth the scrapping of a marketing system built from years of experience?

Each cooperative should keep its members informed on black markets and keep hammering at these facts:

Black markets are wasteful.

Black markets gouge the consumer.

Black markets will sabotage our marketing system.

Black markets will help prolong the war, and we may even lose the war on the food front if they are not abolished.

Black markets are a score of small violations which when added up assume tremendous importance.

Black markets can be stamped out only with the help of producers, processors, dealers, and consumers.

Black markets are unpatriotic. They take food from our boys at the fighting fronts. They cheat patriotic citizens.

Black markets bid up the price and can cause inflation.

Black markets are here because greedy people want more than their share.

Let's be patriotic and share the food to keep America free.

HELPING IN THE EMERGENCY

And doing a grand job of it.



State College's F.F.A. Grading and Packing Crew preparing 333 Blue Label Pecks in the first 60 minutes. A combination of knowledge of willing workers and particularly fine potatoes is hard to beat. Left to right, front row—Paul Shoemaker, Chapter Vice-President; Paul Loesch, Stanley Clouser. Back row, E. H. Dale, Adviser; Bud Dreibellis, Maurice Lightner, Chapter Reporter and Sam Loesch.

Students of Vocational Agriculture in the various potato growing areas can make and are making every lick count in this labor shortage emergency. The situation is acute both labor for harvesting and labor for grading and packing is most difficult to secure. Most growers feel fortunate and have reason to be pleased if their picking problem is on its way to being solved let alone grading and marketing at the same time. Pennsylvania potato buyers and distributors, however, must have potatoes in their warehouses and stores regularly and in sufficient quantities if we expect them to move our crop advantageously.

Vocational Ag classes have a splendid opportunity to be of service in the grading and packaging of consumer packages. Seven or eight young fellows make up a crew or team, one is appointed official inspector responsible for what goes into the bag.

The State College Agricultural Department under the leadership of F.F.A. Chapter Adviser, E. H. Dale, has made up teams to do this job so necessary to the maintenance of our Pennsylvania market for Pennsylvania potatoes.

C. F. H. Wuesthoff, Secretary of the State Growers Association, gave this group preliminary instructions on Wednesday afternoon, September 15th, and between 2:00 and 4:00 P. M. this fine bunch of young men prepared over 600 Blue Label 15 lb. consumer packages for the Altoona Retail Stores and promised to return the next day for another "work out" so that picking and storing operations could go along unhampered.

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THE JUNIOR-GUIDE POST

Pennsylvania Junior Cooperative Potato Growers Assn.

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Leo H. Stout, Shinglehouse..President
Calvin M. Will, Somerset..V.-President
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Annual Membership—$1.00 which includes 12 issues of The GUIDE POST.

Single Copies—25c.

All communications concerning the Junior Cooperative Potato Growers' Association should be addressed to either Secretary, Daniel W. Keener, Neffs, Penna., or C. F. H. Wuesthoff. Gen'l. Manager, 410 Campbell St., Williamsport, Penna.

WHAT CAN CO-OPS DO?

What can the co-ops do about helping farmers keep out of the black market?

For years the cooperatives of the country have been proud of the fact that they have kept their membership informed of all activities. Co-op policy has been, "no secrets from members." Why in this critical period should the co-op not go to its membership and keep it informed of what will happen if price ceilings and rationing orders are not obeyed?

Surely the co-ops in carrying on an educational program against black markets, are reaching a most patriotic audience. Farmers as a group are perhaps the most patriotic in the country. To prove this we need only look to the number of farm boys who could easily have been deferred, who are serving in uniform. And farmers have learned the value of cooperation in their own co-ops!

Cooperatives can use their regular educational channels in keeping farmers informed on these current marketing problems. The problem in some areas where cooperatives are losing business to black markets might warrant a circular letter to each individual member of a co-op, setting forth clearly the results of such a program if a large number of farmers, greedy for these extra black dollars, should participate.

Many cooperatives can use their house organs to tell their members about rationing and price ceilings and current changes. Others can take advantage of their annual meetings and meetings with members, when they deliver products, to keep them informed.

Today, when farmer's incomes are the highest on record, is a good time to consider the post war years. No one expects high prices to remain indefinitely. They never have. In periods of low prices, an efficient marketing system is of vital importance. Then it is essential that every product get to market with the least possible expense.

Are a few extra black market dollars worth the scrapping of a marketing system built from years of experience?

Each cooperative should keep its members informed on black markets and keep hammering at these facts:

Black markets are wasteful.

Black markets gouge the consumer.

Black markets will sabotage our marketing system.

Black markets will help prolong the war, and we may even lose the war on the food front if they are not abolished.

Black markets are a score of small violations which when added up assume tremendous importance.

Black markets can be stamped out only with the help of producers, processors, dealers, and consumers.

Black markets are unpatriotic. They take food from our boys at the fighting fronts. They cheat patriotic citizens.

Black markets bid up the price and can cause inflation.

Black markets are here because greedy people want more than their share.

Let's be patriotic and share the food to keep America free.

HELPING IN THE EMERGENCY

And doing a grand job of it.



State College's F.F.A. Grading and Packing Crew preparing 333 Blue Label Pecks in the first 60 minutes. A combination of knowledge of willing workers and particularly fine potatoes is hard to beat. Left to right, front row—Paul Shoemaker, Chapter Vice-President; Paul Loesch, Stanley Clouser. Back row, E. H. Dale, Adviser; Bud Dreibellis, Maurice Lightner, Chapter Reporter and Sam Loesch.

Students of Vocational Agriculture in the various potato growing areas can make and are making every lick count in this labor shortage emergency. The situation is acute both labor for harvesting and labor for grading and packing is most difficult to secure. Most growers feel fortunate and have reason to be pleased if their picking problem is on its way to being solved let alone grading and marketing at the same time. Pennsylvania potato buyers and distributors, however, must have potatoes in their warehouses and stores regularly and in sufficient quantities if we expect them to move our crop advantageously.

Vocational Ag classes have a splendid opportunity to be of service in the grading and packaging of consumer packages. Seven or eight young fellows make up a crew or team, one is appointed official inspector responsible for what goes into the bag.

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INTENTIONAL SECOND EXPOSURE

Cooperative Potato Growers Association are ready and anxious to enlist and assist more grading and packing crews among the F.F.A. Chapters of this state. Their help is invaluable to growers and marketers of Pennsylvania Potatoes. **Our market must be maintained and they can only be maintained by keeping a steady flow of our product to distributors.**

★ ★ ★

State College Chapter was organized in September of last year, it is one of the newest chapters of the state. It is made up of students of the tenth, eleventh and twelfth grades, studying Vocational Agriculture. The boys are not only interested in conducting individual home projects in Agriculture but are also actively engaged in many group activities. Foremost of their group enterprises is the management and operation of an old rundown farm. After running a thorough system of soil tests and applying plenty of the necessary hydrated lime, one ton per acre, they planted acres of M15 hybrid seed corn and College Whitecap. The corn looks good and will easily yield 80 bushels of well matured corn. The College Whitecap is being selected for seed for sale next spring.

Rifle marksmanship training is leading up to dual marksmanship contests. Chapter members participate in High School football, basketball and track and in all school war activities.

E. H. Dale, Chapter Adviser, encouraged by his chapter members, sponsored a 10 weeks course in Farm Machinery Repair last spring. This proved most popular to farmer patrons and will be conducted again the coming season.

The officers of this Chapter are: Charles Meyers, President; Paul Shoemaker, Vice-President; James Corl, Secretary; John Marshal, Treasurer; Maurice Lightner, Reporter; E. H. Dale, Adviser.

We heartily extend our congratulations and best wishes to the boys of the High School Agricultural Department at State College. They have started out well and from their expressions of determination, we believe they will be doing things cooperatively for the good of their community and themselves.

SEED SITUATION

Early potatoes in the southeastern counties of Pennsylvania have suffered severely from the prolonged dry weather. Growers have reported yields as low as 50 bushels per acre. On some of the best farms in Lancaster County yields were reported at 90 bushels per acre, according to K. W. Lauer, in charge of potato seed certification in the State Department of Agriculture.

Late potatoes have also suffered from lack of moisture in the area southeast of the mountains, starting in the Chambersburg area and running east through Harrisburg and Allentown to the Delaware River. Some fields are beyond recovery but the late August rains helped some of the crop, especially the late spring plantings.

In the western part of the State some growers reported an excessive amount of moisture which resulted in poor plant growth and weedy fields.

In the Potter County section, which is the big seed-growing area, growing conditions were excellent. Weather was unfavorable at planting time in this area. Some poor stands were reported but the fields have come along nicely and a good crop is in prospect although the tuber set is not as heavy as usual.

There are more than 1,500 acres of potatoes to be certified this year in Pennsylvania Field inspections have not been completed and some additional fields will likely be rejected. Last year there were 885 acres certified at the final inspection. In 1942 there were 1,505 acres entered for seed certification compared with 2,035 acres entered for inspection this year.

The acreage being certified this year is divided among the following varieties in their order of importance; Russet, Katahdin, White Rural, Sebago, Chippewa, Nittany Cobbler, Houma, Allegheny Mountain, Sequoia, Pennigan, Green Mountain, Mesaba, and Pocono.

Because of the serious shortage of certified seed potatoes available for planting this past spring, special efforts were made to inspect as many fields as possible in order to avoid a repetition of the same condition next spring. While there will still be some rejections, late August prospects indicated a considerable increase in the amount of certified seed available for planting the 1944 crop.

GIRLS HELP TOO!



"Jerry" Mary Elizabeth Smith, daughter of John Smith of BUCKEYE FARMS—Lycoming County, does her bit on her DAD'S 100 acre potato field

SPRAY and DUST

with

MILLARD MODERN LIMES

Rotary Kiln Products

Crop Protection - Service - Reasonable Cost

H. E. MILLARD

Phone 7-3231 **Annville, Pa.**

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INTENTIONAL SECOND EXPOSURE

NEW AND RENEWAL MEMBERSHIPS

Most gratifying responses have been noted within recent months.

Cassel's Store, Reading
Walter Herman, Long Pond
E. J. Balliet, Northampton
Fred N. Sell, Schnecksville
William Pratt, Willow Grove
Levi H. Brubaker, Lancaster
Robert Baker, Indiana
Chas. Jessick, Elysburg
Frank F. Rahfling, Myerstown
L. J. Henry, Phillipsburg
W. J. Lichtenwalner, Breinigsville
Henry H. Eyrich, Yellow House
John B. Schrack, Loganton
Harry E. Graver, Lehighton
Jamison Brothers, Newtown
Henry A. Fink, Slatington
Morris M. Miller, Somerset
W. C. Westcott, Union City
C. W. Waddington, Drexel Hill
G. A. Shafer, Barnesville
W. H. Claypoole, Kittanning
Wm. W. Hayes, Jersey Shore
Aaron B. Blank, Kinzer
J. S. Groupe, Jersey Shore
Lester White, Athens
Cherry Tree F.F.A., Cherry Tree
Switzgable Bros., Broadheadville
Wm. H. Shupp, Effort
Erwin H. Kreger, Gilbert
Frank D. Schweitzer, Lehighton
Nelson E. Irwin, Berwindale
Norman C. Strohl, Lehighton
Clarence Lauchnor, Slatington
Charles T. Gillette, Townville
Daniel J. Frantz, Coplay
J. C. McGough, Dysart
Levi M. Weaver, Lancaster
J. E. Titchen, Wyalusing
Chas. Bittner, Elysburg
C. N. Perkinson, Bloomsburg
John Wintersteen, Bloomsburg
A. J. Karns, Emlenton
C. W. Billings, Edinboro

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YOUR POTATOES—PACK THEM IN

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ATTRACTIVE-ECONOMICAL-CONVENIENT
DURABLE-STRONG

HAMMOND Betterbags WELLSBURG, W. VA.

HAMMOND BAG & PAPER CO.
WELLSBURG, W. VA.

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at the SERVICE of the POTATO industry

FORTUNATELY for producers of essential commodities on-the-dot delivery is assured on any quantity of St. Regis Multiwall Paper Bags, custom-built to your exact requirements.

Modern, efficient and economical, they assure maximum protection in transit and storage for domestic and overseas shipments. Not just because they are available in any quantity — but because they do a better job at substantially less cost, change now to St. Regis Paper Bags.

3 to 6 walls of tough kraft paper fabricated in tube form, one inside the other, each bearing its share of the load, protect your product and deliver it in the same fine condition you sacked it. When necessary, special sheets are incorporated to resist chemical action.

Technical training and long experience with the packaging requirements of your industry enable a St. Regis Engineer to specify the type of bag best suited to your needs. At the same time, he can suggest the most economical way to change-over your packaging equipment, to handle these inexpensive, one-trip paper sacks. Your inquiry will receive prompt attention.

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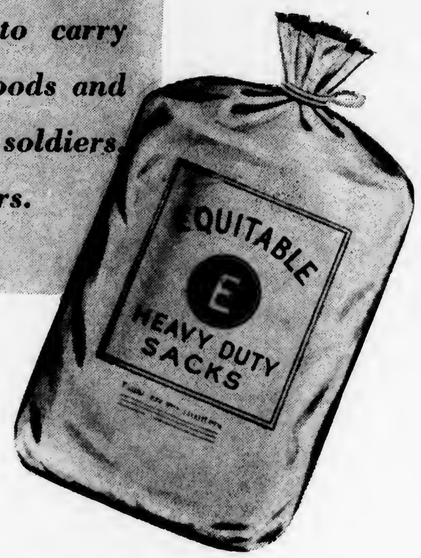
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INDUCTION NOTICE

For immediate action on the war and civilian front!

Equitable Heavy-Duty Kraft Sacks

report for duty prepared to carry through all conditions the foods and chemicals required by our soldiers, allies and home front workers.



We've answered the call with the best sacks we've ever produced . . . designed especially for

POTATOES . . . FERTILIZERS
SOYBEAN PRODUCTS, etc.

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AREA REPORT

WEST-CENTRAL



Harvesting in "full sway" on the Donaldson Farms—Venango County

Frost yesterday morning ripened up most of the potatoes in this district and digging will soon be on a full time basis.

The frost is about two weeks ahead of schedule and caught the late crop only well started. Planting was late on account of wet weather, then dry weather followed, which will make 200 bushel yields the exception and lots of fields hardly worth digging.

We have started deliveries of Pennsylvania Blue Label packs to a number of stores that we serviced last season. At all such places we were enthusiastically welcomed, store managers stating that they were certainly pleased to have Blue Labels again and to have no more bulk potatoes to pack and no more "dirt and corruption" in their stores which results from handling burlaped potatoes.

Our Allegheny Mountains did quite well considering the season, giving a good yield of nice smooth potatoes with few small ones. Some ring rot was present but not enough to cause much loss or trouble.

Poconoes are showing up the best of anything we have had on our farms, being fairly well grown out for size and well shaped. We still predict that they will become one of the best varities for this section.

J. A. Donaldson

★ ★ ★

Farmer co-ops are on the spot wherever black-market operations are concerned. Whatever their cause and whatever their cure, these price-ceiling violations represent a type of operations with which cooperatives and other legitimate handlers cannot compete. In self-defense, if not for other reasons, it is up to the co-ops and their members to help cure an unhealthy situation.

During recent months black-market operations have made serious inroads on the sales volume of a number of co-ops —for the most part in the poultry, livestock, and fruit and vegetable fields. Members of some of these groups have become involuntary dupes to black-market operators. In some instances these members have paid to their associations the "penalty payment" for sales made outside the co-op.

"It is a temporary situation," reported one potato co-op manager who stated that all its members were selling outside the association. "The members are not unfriendly to their co-op and they want to maintain it, but they realize the situation is one with which the cooperative cannot cope."

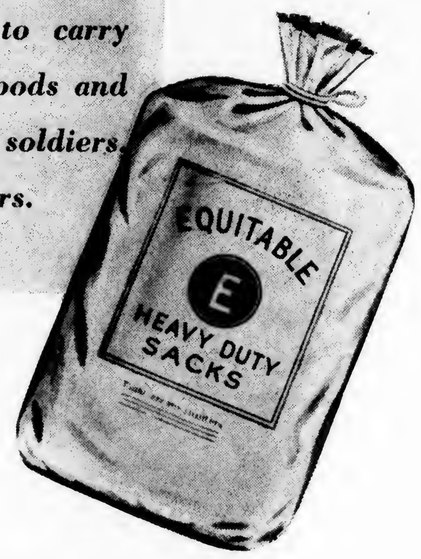
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INTENTIONAL SECOND EXPOSURE

POTATO FORECAST

The potato crop continued to improve under the favorable weather conditions that prevailed in most of the important late areas during August. Total production in the United States for 1943 is now placed at 460,512,000 bushels, compared with 371,150,000 bushels in 1942 and the 10-year (1932-41) average of 363,332,000 bushels. The indicated production is larger than any crop of record, exceeding the previous record of 427,249,000 bushels in 1928 by 33 million bushels.

Most of the improvement in the production outlook occurred in the 18 surplus late States where the September estimate is 19,419,000 bushels above the August estimate. Each State of this group, except Pennsylvania, Nebraska, and California show prospective production equal to or in excess of the August estimate. Growing conditions during August were particularly favorable in Maine and Colorado. On September 1 nearly all vines in Maine were green, had a good set of tubers, and showed relative little late blight. In Colorado, the San Louis Valley and west-central areas had frequent rains and good growing conditions. Wisconsin, Minnesota, North Dakota, Idaho, and Washington show rather substantial increases over the August estimates. Considerable acreage was planted late, however, and the crops will be more vulnerable than usual to early-frost damage. Frosts in the Klamath Falls and Crooks-Deschutes of Oregon on August 29 caused about 10 per cent damage in those areas but favorable growing weather which preceded these frosts probably improved prospects for the State as a whole as much as the loss from frost damage. A frost in the Tule Lake area of California on September 1 stopped growth in most fields and caused a slight reduction in yield per acre. Slight declines in crop prospects occurred in Nebraska and Pennsylvania because of the high temperatures and dry weather that prevailed in some areas. Weather conditions in the late States have been favorable for the control of late blight and reports indicate very little damage to date from this disease.

Outside the 18 surplus late States, August conditions brought a slight net decline production prospects, largely the effect of hot weather and continued drought in southern and Atlantic Coast States from New Jersey to Florida.

FOOD AND ACCIDENTS

A million man hours were lost to food production in Pennsylvania last year due to farm accidents, says the State Rural Safety Committee. An analysis of claims paid by two accident insurance companies operating principally among farm folks in the state indicates that about 10,000 accidents take place on Pennsylvania farms annually. A survey in Ohio conducted through students in vocational agricultural schools showed a total of 13,773 accidents on the 173,056 farms of that state. Of these, 8,380 were disabling accidents, ranging from those causing the loss of a few days work to permanent disability or death. From these it is estimated that 187,153 days were lost from farm work in Ohio during the year. At a conservative 10-hour farm day it would amount to 1,971,530 hours lost from farm work.

Assuming the rate of farm accidents about the same in Pennsylvania as in Ohio, and coupled with the insurance companies' reports in this state, the Pennsylvania Rural Safety Committee estimates that at least ten thousand accidents occur on the farms of this state in a year. In time lost and doctors' bills they probably average in cost $50 each, which means a drain of a half million dollars on Keystone agriculture at a time when farmers are struggling with many war-made handicaps and when they should be free to devote all their energies and finances to the production of food.

With food so badly needed, with the supply of machinery and labor on farms so short of requirements, farm accidents represent a loss to the nation which should be curtailed as far as possible. The National Safety Council, through work in other states, concludes that curtailment of farm accidents is possible. They can be reduced just as accidents in industry have been reduced. The continuous and combined efforts of interested groups has been found the most practicable way to bring about this reduction in number of accidents and is the method being followed in the state.

CUPROCIDE for potatoes...

Read what other growers say

1 "This is the second year I have used CUPROCIDE Dust on my 100 acres of potatoes with good results . . . aphid infestations are lighter compared with bordeaux . . . blight control is good."

Arthur V. Youngs

2 "CUPROCIDE Dust held my potato vines and controlled blight as well as bordeaux . . . this was a severe test as blight has been worse this season than for the past 15-20 years."

J. Dwight Reeve

3 "We applied CUPROCIDE Dust on 135 acres of potatoes . . . obtained good commercial control of blight . . . find CUPROCIDE Dust very satisfactory in either wet or dry season."

Carl and John Hohorst

4 "I have used Yellow CUPROCIDE spray on my potato acreage for two seasons. This past season I used CUPROCIDE on my entire 90 acres. It gave me excellent control of blight."

Gustaf A. Johnson

LOOK FOR THIS EMBLEM THIS DUST CONTAINS CUPROCIDE A FUNGICIDE MADE BY ROHM & HAAS COMPANY **WHEN YOU BUY DUST**

CUPROCIDE *is a trade-mark, Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.*

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AT WORK

Iron Age Two Row Kid Glove Potato Digger with 60 Inch Elevator Apron

KID GLOVE HANDLING . . .

Farmers growing potatoes have found it pays to dig their crops with Farquhar "Iron Age" Kid Glove Diggers. Kid Glove handling reduces mechanical injury of tubers to a minimum, in fact, 98% of all potatoes raised never touch metal after leaving the plow blade.

Unit construction permits use of a continuous apron, driven entirely from the rear to provide trouble free operation.

With potatoes becoming an ever more important crop, insure against losses through incomplete digging and mechanical injury by using a Farquhar "Iron Age." Up-grade your potatoes with Kid Glove—the investment will pay for itself in added profits. See the Kid Glove one row or two row at your dealers' or write for the Farquhar "Iron Age" Kid Glove Catalog today.



Industry's flag of freedom waves in the air above the plants of the Farquhar Company . . . presented by the Army and Navy for outstanding production of war material.

Plant and Spray the IRON AGE Way



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THE GUIDE POST

VISION PENNSYLVANIA GROWERS

VOLUME XX — NUMBER 10

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Checking and Rechecking Blue Labels



—Photo by J. B. Warner, County Agent

Messrs. Donald James of Bureau of Markets, Ralph Stutzman and Doyle Stutzman of Indiana County, "Westy" Wuesthoff, General Manager of the Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers' Association.



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PENNSYLVANIA COOPERATIVE POTATO GROWERS ASSOCIATION

INCORPORATED



The Value of High Yield and Good Quality

This year as never before high yield and good quality in potato harvests are of greatest importance. A sound potato will be better able to stand adverse shipping conditions than a potato grown under unbalanced fertilizer conditions. Now is the time for growers to check their yields and quality against their fertilizer practices to see if these practices are producing desired results.

High yield and good quality mean that the potato crop could get all the potash it needed during the growing season. Potatoes are greedy feeders on potash. They use more of this plant food than nitrogen and phosphoric acid combined. Before the planting season, far-sighted growers check up on what their soils will supply and then make sure that the fertilizers they apply contain enough potash to carry the crop through. For a high yield of No. 1's there must be at least 200 lbs. of actual potash (K_2O) per acre available to the growing plants.

Check your harvests now. Consult your county agent or experiment station about the fertility of your soils. See your fertilizer dealer or manufacturer. You will be surprised how little it costs to apply enough potash to insure greater returns from your potato crop.

Write us for additional information and free literature on the practical fertilization of crops.

More Potash means More Profit

American Potash Institute

INCORPORATED

1155 16th ST., N. W. WASHINGTON, D. C.

THE GUIDE POST

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Volume XX **October, 1943** **Number 10**

WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION CONGRESS TO DETERMINE "WHAT IT TAKES" FOR MAXIMUM 1944 PRODUCTION

At the invitation of President M. P. Whitenight, the following committee was asked to represent the Potato Growers' Association—E. L. Nixon, P. D. Frantz, Clayton Snyder, C. F. H. Wuesthoff and M. P. Whitenight. Due to critical labor conditions at home incidental to harvest Messrs. Whitenight and Wuesthoff were unable to attend. The above group, Messrs. Nixon, Frantz and Snyder, met with Hugh S. Mackey, State War Board; J. B. R. Dickey, Pennsylvania State College; M. M. Rahn, Carbon County Extension; Sheldon Poole, AAA; Alfred T. Reigel, County War Board; the latter group appointed by the War Food Administration. The above committee was considered representative persons interested in, or contributing to, agricultural production to establish production goals in line with our national food requirements and the maximum agriculture capabilities of the state.

The Congress spent two full days. The first day was devoted to getting first-hand reports from various heads of the Federal Government who placed definite war production needs before the entire body of some 75 in attendance, representing every phase of agricultural production. Late afternoon and evening the potato committee met to draw up a report on what it considered prime essentials to maximum results. The following is the report made by the committee at the last session of the whole Congress which unanimously adopted it in its entirety.

Report of the Potato Committee

The Handbook for "State Goal Meetings" states that **"The needs are such that every crop acre and every farming facility should be put to its most productive use."**

If true, this means, therefore, that every acre adapted to potato production and every farm equipped to produce them economically should make an effort to grow potatoes.

The War Food Administration suggests 200,000 acres as a goal for Pennsylvania.

The Committee appointed to consider ways and means to attain this goal submits the following recommendations:

1. Labor—The Committee calls attention especially to absolute necessity of retaining all the present technically skilled labor on the potato farms and even in some instances replacing such labor that has been inducted into the armed services to enable well-equipped potato farms "to put every crop acre and every facility into its most productive use."

The committee believes that the only way to retain much of this technically skilled farm labor (especially that of military age) is to give, and at once, suitable military recognition as true "Soldiers of Victory."

The committee further believes that a training of adaptable farm youth to operate these mechanically equipped farms should be encouraged and after this training, assigned with "military honors" to the farms in need of such help.

The committee is of the opinion that labor necessary for actually picking the crop is available and that machinery is

in operation through patriotic appeals to schools and civic organizations to see to it that not a morsel of food need be wasted through inability to harvest it.

Labor of a type to transport, load and unload crops and supplies beyond the strength and endurance of children and most feminine hands is extremely scarce and is a serious handicap to the most productive utilization of commercial potato production.

2. Machinery—There is no other farm equipment that wears out as rapidly as potato equipment. It is clear, therefore, that new replacements are an absolute necessity. The larger commercial potato farms replace almost their entire lines of equipment every five or six years. Much of this equipment was several years old before Pearl Harbor. It is now at the place where repairs to keep it running at all is up 100 to 200 per cent. Much of it is beyond repair. Therefore, the Committee recommends that no time be lost in seeing to it that adequate replacements for established potato growers be provided and new growers of adequate and adaptable acreage be cared for.

The committee further recommends that an intensive campaign be put on to establish spray, planting and digging rings through the entire State, with the realization that this is the only way to materially increase not only the acreage, but what is more important the production of potatoes. There are a lot of fertile acres adapted to potato production on all sorts of farms with ample labor to grow a few acres and not overtax the storage and marketing facilities if planting, spraying, and digging can be done mechanically.

The committee calls attention to the seriousness of repair parts and repair mechanics. Repair parts were not nearly adequate for last year. More will be needed this season for all potato equipment is one year older. All farm equipment and repair dealers ought to be well stocked with a full line of repair parts for their respective make of machinery. Machinery breaks under usage or stress, not while it is idle in the machine shed.

The committee further calls attention to the inroads made by Selective Service and defense industries on the repair mechanics who keep the present inadequate farm equipment in operation. The committee recommends that these men also receive "Men of Victory" awards, and that adaptable youth be trained as rapidly as possible and assigned with "military honors" to farm repair shops.

3. Fertilizer, Seed, and Supplies—The committee discussed the so-called potash deficiency and recommends that there be manufactured and delivered to the farms an ample supply of fertilizer suitable for potatoes containing a potash content not lower than that of phosphoric acid and not less than double the content of nitrogen (such as 5-10-10 or 4-12-12).

Adequate potash for potatoes in the case of some manufacturers may depend upon the adjustment of some apparent unfairness in allocations by WPB and/or the sale of lower potash analysis in fertilizers for grain crops on soils receiving manure in the rotation.

4. Floors, Ceilings, and Incentive Payments—The Committee wishes to go on record as recommending that the whole business under this heading be simplified. We believe that a floor high enough to cover average cost of production including wartime increased cost is essential. We believe that such a floor equitably calculated will be amply adequate to bring the desired goal of production and will take the place of the complicated and misunderstood incentive payments.

The committee believes that a ceiling on the retail price to consumers should be equitable yet high enough to permit business to operate between floor and ceiling. We believe that this will eliminate the black market and the present confusion.

5. Insurance—The Committee considered crop insurance and came unanimously to the conclusion that an equitable floor price is more satisfactory and fairer than any other form of insurance.

6. Publicity — The Committee urges that immediate steps be taken to counteract the impression that seems to be growing among business men and citizens of the metropolitan areas that the potato growers or farmers are responsible for the high food prices and receive 50 cents per bushel incentive payment on all the potatoes they produce. The metropolitan press should have the facts and thus help maintain the good will which Chambers of Commerce, Service Clubs, and all sorts of societies and associations have endeavored to inculcate between the farmer and business man over the past quarter century.

We believe that with the proper attention of those in authority, it will be no trick for the Pennsylvania potato growers to reach or excel any reasonable goal placed upon them and, in addition, store and orderly market the entire crop—which is the other half of potato production.

Respectfully submitted,
Dr. E. L. Nixon, *Chairman*
Hugh S. Mackey
J. B. R. Dickey
N. M. Rahn
Sheldon R. Poole
P. Daniel Frantz
Clayton Snyder
Alfred T. Reigel

EDITOR'S NOTE: We feel this report should be carefully read and studied by our growers. Some of the salient factors, it seems to us, might be further elaborated so that we all can be more familiar with the efforts of the Association's committee who appreciate the problems from the practical angle.

A BENEFACTOR PASSES

Fred H. Bateman of A. B. Farquhar Company

A kind Christian gentleman, a lover of all things agricultural, a practical investigator, an inventive genius, a man with vision, faith, courage, energy, enthusiasm, and unquestioned integrity.

Almost everybody who produces, distributes or consumes food has benefitted because he lived. His passing causes us to reflect on the value of his contributions and to be grateful that he lived and appreciative of his friendship.

While Mr. Bateman lived in New Jersey he was so closely identified with Pennsylvania potato growing that he was considered a Pennsylvanian. So also was he claimed by all other potato producing areas.

Mr. Bateman received the first certificate of merit and medal of award issued by the Pennsylvania Co-operative Potato Growers' Association. The following is taken from the Association's files:

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

The Pennsylvania Potato Growers' are aware of the many contributing forces which are responsible for the advancement of the potato industry. Back of most of these forces is an individual or a group of individuals who have contributed more than is required or even expected of them. To register our appreciation and acknowledge the outstanding achievement to which such generosity invariably leads.

Be it resolved, that this medal of award be presented to Fred H. Bateman of the A. B. Farquhar Company, York, Pennsylvania, "for the knowledge exercised in developing a potato planter so well adapted to the needs of our Industry. January, 1937

The New Jersey Board of Agriculture awarded him a "Citation for Distinguished Service to New Jersey Agriculture."

Mr. Bateman only waxed with enthusiasm when he was adapting a piece of machinery to improving crop production. Here his energy was tireless and his enthusiasm never waned.

Iron Age machinery and Fred Bateman became inseparably linked. He was most widely known by potato growers through the Iron Age Potato Planter—the most accurate mechanical potato planter known. His inventive genius adapted a great many machines to the economies of crop production and preservation. One of his latest lines of practical investigation was fertilizer placement. This work is just beginning to come into its own.

Wherever progressive farmers assembled or wherever progressive agricultural leadership was in evidence there you found Fred H. Bateman. Few if any businessmen or manufacturers have a wider or more friendly acquaintance with farm people than Mr. Bateman.

Mr. Bateman had a very active interest in Camp Potato. Only a very few days before his death he wrote in his own characteristic clear hand writing, that in the past he had offered "a fairly sizeable sum for the privilege of naming a potato, if good enough, Iron Age." He congratulated us on our work at the Camp and expressed himself on continued and renewed vigor the coming summer. Hope springs eternal in the



Mr. Bateman Planting the first hill of potatoes at Camp Potato.



After Mr. Benjamin had dug the "first hill" at Camp Potato

human breast and a selection of fine tubers had already been collected to send him when the notice of his death arrived.

The accompanying illustration shows Mr. Bateman planting the first potato at Camp Potato. The "placement" of fertilizer in the "band method" is finely illustrated—two pet expressions of Mr. Bateman.

The second illustration shows the same hill dug by Mr. Benjamin of The Pennsylvania Farm Bureau Co-op.

While this hill has not quite come up to all of our hopes and aspirations a full sister in this line of breeding has.

E. L. NIXON

POTATO KING

By R. U. Blasingame

Ideas and ingenuity are the stock in trade of A. C. Ramseyer, best-known spud producer east of the Mississippi, whose innovations are worth a look by the operators of many smaller farms.

My introduction to Alvin C. Ramseyer was characteristic. We were touring the state of Pennsylvania — 100 of us, in busses—to learn the Nixon 400-bushel potato system, when one night our traveling soup kitchen broke down. A hundred hungry men descended on a small restaurant, where the proprietor was likewise cook and waiter and clerk, and completely overwhelmed the place. Chaos threatened until one of our party pitched in to organize things and get us fed.

The man of that hour was Ramseyer. I sought him out next morning to ask how long he'd been feeding the public, and he ducked the question by replying that he was a potato grower from Smithville, Ohio, come to Pennsylvania to get the facts on Dr. E. L. Nixon's magic with spuds. That was fifteen years ago, and in the meantime A. C. Ramseyer has soaked up so much potato lore, and succeeded so well, that he is the best-known if not the largest grower east of the Mississippi. I happen to know that he dug, graded and sold 325,000 bushels from his 1200-acre Mara Alva potato farms between August sixth and October thirtieth of this past year.

Ramseyer learned to wait on tables when he was hustling his way through college in three crowded years. He planned to teach; he had had his fill of farming at home. But his father let him have 10 acres of land in 1905 which yielded 351 bushels of potatoes per acre. He sold his half for thirty cents a bushel.

"That," he said, "was more money than I had ever had before, and it fired my ambition." He rented fifty acres for $250 per year. He had a team, a second-hand wagon, a plow and a harrow, and borrowed the rest of the tools. After three seasons he owned several teams and all of the equipment needed to grow potatoes after the style of those days. Then, in 1908, he bought a farm of 118 acres and proceeded to drain thirty acres for potatoes. The increased yield the first year paid for the improvement. In three years all the farm was tiled.

Ramseyer believes you pay for improvements whether you have them or not. He has traveled from Maine to Minnesota to Mexico to study successful ways of growing potatoes. His own spuds are uniformly high grade. He has never advertised; yet trucks come from Pennsylvania, Michigan, Kentucky, and Florida to get his crop. He was at a potato growers' meeting some years ago when a farmer mentioned rye sown in the fall as a cover crop for potatoes. Ramseyer got the details, and for years he has sown rye following early potatoes and plowed it under the next spring. He follows late potatoes with wheat.

Shortly after war began I visited the Ramseyer farm to find out some of the ways farmers may produce more with less help for the duration. Ramseyer said he could show me better than he could tell me. So we drove over to a farm he had just bought. A wood lot and a small swamp used up what he called the best part of that farm. His men and tractors were busy cleaning up and draining the low, wet land.

"The first thing a fellow should do if he wishes to farm well is to clear away the obstacles," said Ramseyer. "You see that old orchard and those tumble-down buildings up there? They come away next. If you come back here next summer, you will see soybeans growing all over this farm."

I was back there in the summer to see the soybeans. You couldn't tell where the fence rows, old orchard, tumble-down buildings, swamp or new ground had been. "Those soybeans will be turned under next year ahead of the potato crop." He turned to call attention to the carpenters putting a new roof and other improvements on the dwelling house. "You can't get good labor to live in a poor house."

On my next visit he took me to a well-lighted, well-equipped, heated shop on one of his farms. His head mechanic had a Diesel tractor engine apart and was making a list of the needed repair parts. That was the latter part of November. Being in the potato business, Ramseyer has a fleet of home-built high-pressure sprayers. When he cleans his machinery, he removes the spray boom and



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INTENTIONAL SECOND EXPOSURE

attaches a piece of heavy hose, with a quarter-inch pipe in the loose end. Water comes out of that nozzle at about 400 pounds pressure and, when turned on a dirty tractor or other piece of machinery, makes it as clean as a pin in less than fifteen minutes. The mechanic said that it used to take them days to clean up all of the tractors and machinery for repairs.

While the head mechanic on the Ramseyer farm works almost altogether on tractors, he supervises the other winter repair work. The men who run plows, harrows, planters, drills, diggers and combines do the actual shopwork. If they give trouble in the field, the operators know how to remedy it.

Back to those high-pressure sprayers again. They are mounted on trucks and spray twelve rows at a time. One spray tank holds 700 gallons, the other two 800 each. Each sprayer has a separate reconditioned automobile engine to run the pump. The boom is attached in front of the truck. Every small piece of those spray booms is taken apart each winter, repaired, and each joint renewed, so that next summer there will be no delay when the bugs and blight get bad. The cooling fans are reversed to blow outward; this keeps the double radiators cool and clean of trash and spray material. The front axles of the sprayer trucks are turned upside down to give more clearance and level the truck up to the big rear tires Ramseyer prefers to dual treads.

Ramseyer works closely with the farm-machinery dealer and repair firm in Smithville. According to him, these men, Abner Trayer and Fussel Singer, show what a good farm-machinery business can do for itself when it co-operates with the neighboring farmers. Machinery meetings are held each winter in the Trayer and Singer shop. Farmers bring in their old machinery and swap experiences on troubles and remedies.

New practices have developed from these meetings at Smithville. To prevent potatoes from being cut, the diggers were attached to tractors rigidly in the horizontal plane; flexibility is maintained in the vertical plane, of course. These machines do not sideslip on the hillside and cut the tubers as before. Spray booms have also been improved.

Reprinted Courtesy of The Country Gentleman.

MARKETING AND GRADING SCHOOL

(See Cover Sketch)

The potato graders' school in Indiana County was held on October 20 at the farm of W. D. Goughnour, manager of the Indiana County Potato Growers' Association. Sixty persons, including a large group of FFA and 4-H Club boys, attended the demonstration and took the examination following. In this photo, we see a peck of Blue Labels being inspected following the demonstration. Left to right: Don James of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, who gave the examination for grader certificates; Ralph Stutzman, son of Guy Stutzman; Doyle Stutzman, Jr., whose father had been a director of the Potato Growers' Association; Bob Liggett, a local grower; and "Westy" Wuesthoff, manager of the Pennsylvania Potato Growers' Association. Bob Donaldson, Extension specialist in agricultural marketing at Penn State, gave the instructional phase of the program. This school was one of the most interesting and worthwhile schools held this year. All attending were intensely interested with thirty-six qualifying, as a result of the examination, as local inspectors.

CERTIFIED

SEED POTATOES

★ ★ ★

Maine and North Dakota

Carloads and Less

★ ★ ★

SPRING SHIPMENTS

E. A. TREXLER

Trexler, Pa.

★ ★ ★

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A RESTATEMENT OF GRADES

Official Grade for Potatoes Adapted by the Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers' Association

Blue Label Grade shall consist of potatoes of one variety or of similar varietal characteristics, which are fairly well shaped, fairly clean, free from freezing injury, blackheart and soft rot or wet breakdown and from damage caused by sunburn, second growth, growth cracks, air cracks, hollow heart, cuts, shriveling, sprouting, scab blight, dry rot, rhizoctonia, other diseases, insects or mechanical or other means. (See definition of terms.)

Unless otherwise stated or specified the size of the potatoes shall be two (2) inches minimum and not over sixteen (16) ounces maximum by weight. In the fifteen (15) pound sack or in the standard peck sack this grade requires that 50 per cent of the potatoes shall exceed two and one-quarter ($2\frac{1}{4}$) inches in diameter.

Tolerances for Defects—In order to allow for variations incidental to proper grading and handling, not more than 6 per cent shall be below the requirements of this grade but not to exceed one-sixth (1/6) of this amount, or one per cent, shall be allowed for soft rot or wet breakdown. In addition, not more than 5 per cent may be damaged by hollow heart.

Tolerance for Size—In order to allow for variations incidental to proper sizing, not more than 5 per cent shall be below the minimum size, and not over 10 per cent shall be in excess of the maximum size.

DEFINITION OF TERMS

Damage means any injury or defect which materially injures the appearance of the individual potato, or the general appearance of the potato in the container, or which cannot be removed without a loss of more than 5 per cent of the total weight of the potato including peel covering defective area.

Loss of outer skin (epidermis) shall not be considered a damage unless the skinned surface is materially affected by very dark discoloration. Any one of the following defects, the seriousness of which exceeds the maximum allowed for any one defect, shall be considered a damage.

Second Growth or growth cracks which have developed to such an extent as to materially injure the appearance of the individual potato or the general appearance of the potatoes in the container.

Air Cracks which are deep, or shallow air cracks which materially injure the appearance of the individual potato or the general appearance of the potatoes in the container.

Shriveling—When the potato is more than moderately shriveled, spongy, or flabby.

Sprouting—When more than 10 per cent of the potatoes have sprouts over three-fourths ($\frac{3}{4}$) of an inch long.

Surface Scab which covers an area of more than 5 per cent of the surface of the potato in the aggregate.

Pitted Scab which affects the appearance of the potatoes in a greater extent than the amount of surface scab permitted, or causes a loss of more than 5 per cent of the total weight of the potato, including peel covering defective area.

Rhizoctonia—When the general appearance of the potatoes in the container is materially injured or when individual potatoes are badly infected.

Dirt—When the general appearance of the potatoes in the container is more than slightly dirty or stained, or when individual potatoes are badly caked with dirt or badly stained, or covered with other foreign matter which materially affects the appearance of the potatoes.

Red Label Grade—Medium sized potatoes shall meet all the requirements of the BLUE LABEL grade except that the size requirements will be a minimum of one and one-half ($1\frac{1}{2}$) inches and a maximum of two and one-fourth ($2\frac{1}{4}$) inches.

Green Label Grade shall consist of potatoes which meet the requirements of the BLUE LABEL grade except that they shall be free from serious damage by dirt and except for the increased tolerance for defects specified below:

Unless otherwise specified the diameter of each potato shall not be less than one and seven-eighths ($1\frac{7}{8}$) inches.

Tolerance for Defects—In order to

allow for variations other than size and sprouting incident to proper grading and handling, not more than a total of 20 per cent of the potatoes in any container may be below the requirements of this grade, but not more than 5 per cent may be seriously damaged by hollow heart and not over 6 per cent may be below the remaining requirements of U. S. No. 2 grade, provided that not more than one-sixth (1/6) of this amount, or 1 per cent shall be allowed for potatoes affected by soft rot or wet breakdown. In addition, not more than 10 per cent of the potatoes may be damaged by sprouting, provided that if all of the 20 per cent tolerance is not used for other defects, the unused part of the tolerance may also be used for potatoes having sprouts over three-fourths (¾) inch long but which are not seriously damaged by shriveling.

Yellow Label—An unclassified package for potatoes below GREEN LABEL or U. S. Commercial.

DEFINITION OF DEFECTS

Serious Damage—Serious damage means any injury or defect which seriously injures the appearance of the individual potato or the general appearance of the potatoes in the container, or which cannot be removed without the loss of more than 10 per cent of the total weight of the potato including peel covering defective area. Any one of the following defects or any combination of defects, the seriousness of which exceeds the maximum allowed for any one defect, shall be considered a serious damage.

(a)—Dirt when the general appearance of the potatoes in the container is seriously affected by tubers badly caked with dirt; or other foreign matter which seriously affects the appearance of the potatoes.

(b)—Cuts. When both ends are clipped or when more than an estimated one-fourth (¼) of the potato is cut away from one end, or when the remaining portion of the clipped potato weighs less than six ounces.

Other cuts which seriously affect the appearance of the individual potato or which cannot be removed without a loss of more than 10 per cent of the total weight of the potato including the peel covering defective area.

(c)—Shriveling. When the potato is excessively shriveled, spongy or flabby.

(d)—Surface Scab. Which covers an area of more than 50 per cent of the surface of the potato in the aggregate.

(e)—Pitted Scab. Which affects the appearance of the potato to a greater extent than the amount of surface scab permitted, or causes a loss of more than 10 per cent of the total weight of the potato including peel covering defective area.

Local Inspectors-Grade Supervisors' "Honor Roll"

As the 1943 series of Grade Supervisors' schools nears completion, it seems that recognition should be given to those who did the most outstanding work at these meetings.

Those who attained a mark of 90 per cent or more in the examination are considered to have done extraordinary work in placing potatoes in their proper grades. Therefore all those who placed in this select group are listed below, up to and including the Indiana school. Any who attain a mark of 90 per cent or better in the subsequent schools will be listed in a later issue of the GUIDE POST.

Frank A. Brooks, Bellefonte
Jack Fitzhonts, Homer City
Hiram Frantz, Coplay
A. E. Herman, Edinboro
Henry T. Johnson, Patton
William Lytle, Penn Run
J. Carl Miller, Bloomsburg
Henry Myers, Port Matilda
Roy Pearce, Indiana
W. Robertson, Indiana
Thomas Shadle, Luzerne Mines
Albert H. Snyder, Northumberland
Bob Sweeney, Luzerne Mines
C. R. Yerger, Apollo

With half the reports in, thirty-six new men have been qualified as local inspectors and grade supervisors for the Association's pack, twice this number of the "old men" took refresher examinations and passed these very handily.

SEEDLING HARVEST AT CAMP POTATO



Left to right: S. D. Gray, Washington, D. C.; F. D. Jones, Ambler, Pa. and C. F. H. Wuesthoff, Williamport, Pa.

The seedling harvest at "Camp Potato" was accomplished, when once begun, in quick order. Fully 10,000 bushels of beautiful potatoes were harvested and stored in the "Camp" storage bins. Ed Fisher placed his crew of some 25 pickers and six key men and machines into the job 100 per cent. All with the exception of perhaps two or three acres of the smaller batches were under cover before the first cold rain on October 14. Doctor Nixon was on the job practically all the time while your general manager, C. F. H. Wuesthoff, was on hand as much as possible without neglecting other phases of the association's activities too much.

Some outstanding visitors were on hand most of the time to study the results of different improved practices. Arnold Nicholson, managing editor of THE COUNTRY GENTLEMAN, spent two days in and around the "Camp." Mr. Nicholson is a most keen and colorful personage. He studied in detail The Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers' "set-up" and marveled at our accomplishments. Camp Potato, THE GUIDE POST, The Junior Growers, and the Marketing Program all were good news to him. He was particularly struck with the fine co-operative spirit existing between growers and buyers of potatoes. Needless to say, he was impressed with the new seedlings coming up.

F. D. Jones, of the American Chemical Paint Co., Ambler, Penna., spent several days photographing the results obtained by the use of Rootone, Plantone.

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Some Seedling Observations

WOS, G51A, HU23ME, *VEVW, and VEAH Dwarf were, according to the writer's humble observation, the most promising. The yields were high, the tubers most desirable in shape, color, and quality. Each had something different to recommend them—any one of them might easily be the housewife's choice. Disease and rot in most instances were conspicuous by their absence even though they grew side by side with badly infected stock and were exposed for years to the same infections. 1942 certified seed of a most popular variety growing between WOS and HU23ME certainly showed a rot tendency that must be reckoned with soon. The above

Continued on page fifteen

allow for variations other than size and sprouting incident to proper grading and handling, not more than a total of 20 per cent of the potatoes in any container may be below the requirements of this grade, but not more than 5 per cent may be seriously damaged by hollow heart and not over 6 per cent may be below the remaining requirements of U. S. No. 2 grade, provided that not more than one-sixth (1/6) of this amount, or 1 per cent shall be allowed for potatoes affected by soft rot or wet breakdown. In addition, not more than 10 per cent of the potatoes may be damaged by sprouting, provided that if all of the 20 per cent tolerance is not used for other defects, the unused part of the tolerance may also be used for potatoes having sprouts over three-fourths (¾) inch long but which are not seriously damaged by shriveling.

Yellow Label—An unclassified package for potatoes below GREEN LABEL or U. S. Commercial.

DEFINITION OF DEFECTS

Serious Damage—Serious damage means any injury or defect which seriously injures the appearance of the individual potato or the general appearance of the potatoes in the container, or which cannot be removed without the loss of more than 10 per cent of the total weight of the potato including peel covering defective area. Any one of the following defects or any combination of defects, the seriousness of which exceeds the maximum allowed for any one defect, shall be considered a serious damage.

(a)—Dirt when the general appearance of the potatoes in the container is seriously affected by tubers badly caked with dirt; or other foreign matter which seriously affects the appearance of the potatoes.

(b)—Cuts. When both ends are clipped or when more than an estimated one-fourth (¼) of the potato is cut away from one end, or when the remaining portion of the clipped potato weighs less than six ounces.

Other cuts which seriously affect the appearance of the individual potato or which cannot be removed without a loss of more than 10 per cent of the total weight of the potato including the peel covering defective area.

(c)—Shriveling. When the potato is excessively shriveled, spongy or flabby.

(d)—Surface Scab. Which covers an area of more than 50 per cent of the surface of the potato in the aggregate.

(e)—Pitted Scab. Which affects the appearance of the potato to a greater extent than the amount of surface scab permitted, or causes a loss of more than 10 per cent of the total weight of the potato including peel covering defective area.

Local Inspectors-Grade Supervisors' "Honor Roll"

As the 1943 series of Grade Supervisors' schools nears completion, it seems that recognition should be given to those who did the most outstanding work at these meetings.

Those who attained a mark of 90 per cent or more in the examination are considered to have done extraordinary work in placing potatoes in their proper grades. Therefore all those who placed in this select group are listed below, up to and including the Indiana school. Any who attain a mark of 90 per cent or better in the subsequent schools will be listed in a later issue of the GUIDE POST.

Frank A. Brooks, Bellefonte
Jack Fitzhonts, Homer City
Hiram Frantz, Coplay
A. E. Herman, Edinboro
Henry T. Johnson, Patton
William Lytle, Penn Run
J. Carl Miller, Bloomsburg
Henry Myers, Port Matilda
Roy Pearce, Indiana
W. Robertson, Indiana
Thomas Shadle, Luzerne Mines
Albert H. Snyder, Northumberland
Bob Sweeney, Luzerne Mines
C. R. Yerger, Apollo

With half the reports in, thirty-six new men have been qualified as local inspectors and grade supervisors for the Association's pack, twice this number of the "old men" took refresher examinations and passed these very handily.

SEEDLING HARVEST AT CAMP POTATO



Left to right: S. D. Gray, Washington, D. C.; F. D. Jones, Ambler, Pa. and C. F. H. Wuesthoff, Williamport, Pa.

The seedling harvest at "Camp Potato" was accomplished, when once begun, in quick order. Fully 10,000 bushels of beautiful potatoes were harvested and stored in the "Camp" storage bins. Ed Fisher placed his crew of some 25 pickers and six key men and machines into the job 100 per cent. All with the exception of perhaps two or three acres of the smaller batches were under cover before the first cold rain on October 14. Doctor Nixon was on the job practically all the time while your general manager, C. F. H. Wuesthoff, was on hand as much as possible without neglecting other phases of the association's activities too much.

Some outstanding visitors were on hand most of the time to study the results of different improved practices. Arnold Nicholson, managing editor of THE COUNTRY GENTLEMAN, spent two days in and around the "Camp." Mr. Nicholson is a most keen and colorful personage. He studied in detail The Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers' "set-up" and marveled at our accomplishments. Camp Potato, THE GUIDE POST, The Junior Growers, and the Marketing Program all were good news to him. He was particularly struck with the fine co-operative spirit existing between growers and buyers of potatoes. Needless to say, he was impressed with the new seedlings coming up.

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Continued on page fifteen

INTENTIONAL SECOND EXPOSURE

The Certified Seed Picture

Reported by a Recent Visitor in Northern Sections

In the northern-tier counties of this state, particularly in the Potter County area, growers are anticipating a good crop. Although the set was light the tonnage is good due to size. In the western part of the state rainfall was localized and the crop quite spotty. Approximately 2,000 acres were entered for certification this year compared with 1,500 acres last year. Around 1,400 acres are expected to be certified. The third inspection of fields was well under way (September 13th). Yields will not be heavy and a high percentage of size B is expected. Low yields coupled with increased acreage will make Pennsylvania Certified Seed compare favorably with 1942.

Generally the Maine Seed outlook is good, yields per acre have never been better. The Cobbler acreage has been reduced yet the yield per acre is higher than ever. Due to size and grade the total Cobbler seed available will not quite meet that of last year, in fact, a 10 per cent decrease is expected. The Katahdin certified acreage this year was increased and this, together with the high yield, should show at least a 10 per cent increase in volume. The Sebago acreage and volume of seed for use in 1944 is very much the same as the Katahdin. The Chippewa acreage was greatly reduced from 2,500 acres in 1942 to 1,600 acres in 1943.

Size B seed in all varieties will be more scarce than ever before—this was due largely to the exceptionally fine growing weather that this area has experienced.

On October 18th 75 per cent of the digging was completed. The freeze of early October was light, yet heavy enough to do some damage to potatoes still in the ground.

The Michigan seed picture is similar to that of last year. Decreased yields per acre but increased acreages certified seems to make the tonnage about the same as that of 1942. Dry weather was experienced in Michigan this year together with an early frost (September 10th), reducing potato prospects materially. All indications point to a good supply of size B seed with regular U. S. No. 1 stock just fair.

"War-Approved" Seed Potato Program

Issued by Agriculture Conservation and AAA Offices

It is estimated that not over one-fourth as many certified seed potatoes will be available as will be needed for planting the 1944 potato crop. All experimental evidence proves that the yield per acre depends very largely on the quality of seed used.

The situation makes it necessary to have available for seed and identified as such, the best seed stock produced in 1943. Because of this seed potato situation, the U. S. Department of Agriculture, in co-operation with the State Certification Agency, has prepared an expanded seed potato program which will be known as the "War-Approved Seed Potato Program."

Under this program an incentive is made to growers for holding desirable seed out of table stock channels and make it available for seed purposes in 1944.

Price premiums will be established by the Office of Price Administration for war-approved seed over table stock at the production level and every level of distribution.

Growers with potatoes grown from certified seed planted in the spring of 1943 and who certify that no trace of Bacterial Ring Rot was evident and agree to keep the required records and tag each bag with the required tag are eligible to make application to their county USDA war board for sale of such potatoes as war-approved seed.

The war board, upon receipt of the application for sale of war-approved seed, and if approved, will issue to the producer a permit entitling him to tag and sell such potatoes as war-approved seed.

Each bag of war-approved seed must be tagged giving the grower's name and address, variety, weight, grade and permit number. These tags to be supplied by the county war board. The cost of printing to be collected from approved growers when tags are delivered.

The grade specification given on the tag will be subject to the regulations governed by the U. S. Standards for grading and marketing fruits and vegetables.

War-approved seed potatoes as suggested by the State Certification Agency and approved by the Pennsylvania State War Board are such potatoes as are grown and handled under the following procedure:

1. Only such potatoes as are grown in Pennsylvania from Certified Seed planted in 1943 and appear free from Bacterial Ring Rot.
2. A grower desiring to sell such potatoes as "Pennsylvania War-Approved Seed" shall request a permit from his local County War Board, supplying the information as called for on the application.
3. The County War Board may then issue a permit to sell such potatoes as "Pennsylvania War-Approved Seed," providing they are satisfied that the statements contained on the application are correct.
4. The grower may then market such potatoes as Pennsylvania War-Approved Seed, but must tag each bag with a tag showing the grower's name and address, variety, weight, grade and permit number.
5. The grower must maintain a record of all sales of such potatoes showing the information as contained.
6. The grower agrees to keep potatoes separate in storage from any other potatoes and be subject to inspection by authorized government agent at any time.

LABOR SITUATION Still CRITICAL



Due to providence, good weather and co-operating agencies fully 85 per cent of Pennsylvania's potato crop has been dug and placed into storage, or marketed. Necessary picking labor has been available in the majority of cases—women, children and elderly men have done the job. The handling of tractors, trucks and diggers is and was the most vexing. Experienced drivers and operators were most difficult to find. Men capable of loading and unloading potatoes for storage were almost impossible to secure. Owners and their sons and neighbors' sons were called upon to do the job on the exchange basis. Some growers report that they dug, picked up and stored 2,500 to 3,000 bushels for several consecutive days. This was an exceptional case, of course.

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THE GUIDE POST

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Ed. Fisher, Coudersport.....Vice-Pres.
C. F. H. Wuesthoff.....Gen'l Mgr.

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Frank Dodd .....Columbus, Warren

SALES OFFICES

Main Office:
410 Campbell Street, Williamsport, Pa.

Branch Sales Office:
Hindman Farm Supplies—U. S. Route 8, Butler, Pa.

Branch Sales Office:
720 N. Eighth St., Allentown, Pa.

Annual membership fee is $1.00 This includes the GUIDE POST.

Single Copies—25 cents

All communications should be addressed to C. F. H. Wuesthoff, Executive Secretary, Williamsport, Pennsylvania.

PLEASE BE REMINDED

Going into the "Black Market" or "Black Marketing" finances, organizes and maintains trade channels that can destroy all that we have built up and stood for, for the past 20 years. It will bring us back to the days when the question was "What will you give?" instead of "The price is. . . ." One can easily picture growers competing among themselves again to their own disadvantage.

PUBLICITY AND MORALE BUILDING

Pennsylvania's Potato Blossom Queen was recently honored by "The Blue Jackets" at the second largest naval training station of the country. Discovering her picture in one of the state's periodicals, she was chosen by the naval trainees as their "Spud" Locker "Pin-Up Girl" of the year. At their request she made a personal appearance Saturday, October 16th, at the Sampson Naval Training Station on upper Seneca Lake, New York State. Her reception was most wholehearted, due to the courtesy of public relations director Lieut. John Casey and his assistant. In addition to visiting the Locker Boys, Miss McHenry and her chaperon and escorts were conducted on a tour of the station. Yeoman Elfred Valentine, of Syracuse, N. Y., acted as guard and guide. He explained how the boys lived and showed as much as possible so that the party could appreciate conditions among the 36,000 trainees who live as a unit in a camp which is virtually 22 small communities. The boy's induction and Boot Training is most interesting. Considerable time was spent in the station's auditorium observing radio rehearsals of The Blue Jacket musical program directed by Arthur Jarrett, of considerable orchestral fame. The "Mission Accomplished" sketch also was listened to and observed with much interest.

Members of the party visiting the Naval Station consisted of Miss McHenry, Mrs. McHenry, Wava Wuesthoff, Andrew Clark of the Chain Store Council, and C. F. H. Wuesthoff, Secretary of the Pennsylvania Co-operative Potato Growers' Association.

THE BUTLER OFFICE

The Association's Western Branch Sales and Service Office was re-established early this month with J. M. ("Mac") Hindman of Corsica, Penna., in charge. Mr. Hindman is one of the outstanding and consistent potato growers of western Pennsylvania. He knows potatoes and what the problem of the potato growers is and has been. He was in charge of the Butler office of the Production Credit Association for some six years. The experience gained here will serve him in good stead when conducting the duties of the western office of this association.

The purpose of the Butler Office has been to bring the sales activities and grower services closer to the distributor and to the producer. Mr. Hindman's big job this fall and winter will be to interest more growers in packing Blue Label potatoes for the wholesale and retail trade and to acquaint buyers with the association's method of economical sales distribution to the advantage of all concerned—growers, consumers, and distributors.

The Butler Office is located on U. S. Route 8, one mile north of Butler, in the Hindman Farm Supply building. Necessary paper bags and supplies are stored in the above building and are available to all growers in the area. Direct bag shipments, however, will still be made to growers upon request through the central office at Williamsport. The supplies at the Hindman Warehouse have been placed there for the convenience of growers. Bags may be picked up on return trips when making deliveries into the Pittsburgh area.

RATIONING REDUCED ON FARM EQUIPMENT

Farm machinery rationing was reduced from 91 to 31 items effective Friday of this week, and distribution controls were halved, War Food Administration announced. Such items as tractors, harvesters, milking machines and feed grinders remain on the ration list. Lee Marshall, director of the office of Materials and Facilities of the WFA says that the better outlook for machinery production for 1944 has made it possible to provide a more flexible program that should make it easier to meet farmers' needs locally.

He said the authorization for the manufacture of new machinery next year had been doubled to 80 per cent of the 1940 output, compared with an authorization of 40 per cent of 1940 for the last year. There will be no quota restrictions on the manufacture of repair parts. Mr. Marshall said distribution plans are based upon 80 per cent of production, with a reserve of 20 per cent for adjustments.

HOME GROWN

"How has your potato crop turned out?" asked a Victory gardener of his inexperienced neighbor.

"Fine, fine! Some are as big as marbles, some as big as peas, and, of course, we had quite a lot of little ones."

Memberships:

New and Renewal Since Last Issue

Elmer Levan, Catawissa
Michael Potochney, Catawissa
Waldron Frederick, Conyngham
G. W. Robinson, Wattsburg
D. Mark Huber, Lancaster
William Glasgow, Berwindale
I. E. Kreider, Erie
Vincent A. Holtz, Hastings
Clyde E. Horner, Boswell
E. W. Strittmatter, Patton
Clyde G. Sankey, Clearfield
Robert K. Wagner, New Florence
Carl Pasquerette, Corsica
Virgil Overdorff, Indiana
Thoe. Dymond, Punxsutawney
Rex Haagen, Clymer
Jacob K. Mast, Elverson
Paul R. Seifert, Nazareth
Roscoe Burgess, Forksville
J. W. Kraus, Barnesville
V. Ross Nicodemus, Martinsburg
C. H. Trump, Orangeville
Peter Kuziak, Bloomsburg
Curtis H. Adams, Reading
Lorenzo Fetterman, Catawissa
Charles D. Wolfe, Quincy
Isaac Straw, Westover
A. S. Yoder, Catawissa
Warren F. Frantz, Coplay
V. A. Flinchbaugh, Red Lion
John M. McDowell, Kennerdell
H. S. Lute, Barnesboro
W. D. Goughnour, Indiana
O. S. Burnham, Corsica
Harry Weaver, Mahaffey
Guy Stutzman, Indiana
H. M. Travis & Son, Snicksburg
Fred G. Eakin, Kennerdell
Victor R. Handwerk, Walnutport
T. C. Barnfield, Nisbet
Mrs. David L. Ott, Wilmington, Del.
E. B. Bower, Bellefonte

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seedlings seem to be developing resistance tendencies which look to be a most practical control.

When discussing seedlings one dares not forget the Russet Rural types—namely Pocono, Rusty-Cote, and their full sisters. These varieties are still tops among consistent yielders with positive uniformity of size, shape and ressetting. Even in the thinnest, poorest soils at the "Camp" they attract and impress.

LABOR SITUATION STILL CRITICAL

Continued from page thirteen

tivation was neglected. Casual observers know that weedy fields were most common. Spray applications were irregular in many sections due to the shortage of key men or machine operators. Even though the harvesting and storing of the 1943 potato crops has been fairly well done—growers were faced with the severe handicap of too few workers to do the many important jobs when they were to be done. A day's delay in many critical stages of the growing season can and has spelled failure. Pennsylvania's low average yield this year was not only due to dry weather and an early frost but also due to delays or elimination entirely of necessary critical manipulations or operations.

Growers of large acreages have worked long hours themselves to fill the gaps. The shining example for 1943 was the team-work of "the Whitenights," Mr. and Mrs. "M. P.," if you please. They have worked tirelessly throughout the entire season. Plowing, fitting, planting, cultivating, weeding, spraying, digging, picking, hauling, and storing was their concern throughout the season. Whenever the situation warranted it, and that was often, believe me, either one, Mr. or Mrs. or both, mounted tractors and trucks and kept the jobs moving along. Mrs. Whitenight organized and directed seed-cutting crews day after day—cultivated, sprayed, and drove truck whenever necessary and finally organized and directed picking crews to save the crop. **(We say the "more power to the likes of her." Confidentially Percy and Hazel enjoyed working together like nobody's business.)**

WE BELIEVE IN: INDIVIDUAL INSTRUCTION



Left to Right—R. B. Donaldson, Extension Representative instructing Fred Barrett and John H. Thomas, managers on the farm of Mrs. A. R. Hamilton, Johnstown, R.D. 7.

The British barmaid was a flirt, and when the corporal went out to buy a paper she pursed her lips invitingly and leaned over the bar toward the shy young private.

Putting her face against his, she whispered: "Now's your chance, darling."

The private looked around the empty room. "So it is," he remarked, and promptly drank the corporal's beer.

A doctor, in the agonizing throes of a headache, staggered into the drug store. "Give me some of that prepared minoaceticacidester of salicylic acid," he groaned.

"Do you mean aspirin?" asked the druggist.

"That's it," answered the doctor, "I never can remember that name."

SHALL WE SUBSIDIZE POTATOES?

Nothing more truly marks the American farmer and the American business man as the individualist he is than is their contempt for and the fear of the administration plans for subsidization of foods as a roadway toward price stabilization. Latest and most provocative of the proposals for subsidy is that put forward by WFA and CCC for subsidy to be paid to potato growers. The plan is to apply for growers in Idaho, Maine, Long Island and other areas growing late potatoes, and which constitute the bulk of the nation's potato crop. Almost to a man, the potato growers oppose the proposal.

The plan envisions a roll-back, negligible in amount, in the retail price. It is, as was the roll-back on prices of meat and butter, a political gesture designed to get labor off the neck of political Washington. For one so badly burned as was the WFA on its handling of Virginia and Carolina potatoes (assisted by WPB and OPA) we would think WFA would look askance at any further proposal that it dabble in so sensitive, volatile a crop as potatoes. The government bought and threw away what is said to have been a majority of the crop grown in these states. The editor of the Naborhood Grocer saw carloads being dumped into Roanoke River, and with a newspaper reporter, walked past many cars in local railway yards, the contents of which were then in the last stages of decay. At countless railway points, this gross incompetence resulted in like huge loss of a most valuable food.

Certainly, WFA can have no illusions concerning how the potato growers of the country feel about the matter. A meeting recently held in Washington under its own auspices, had present representatives of virtually every potato-growing section of the nation. Most emphatic action taken was a resolution insisting that the government go no further than to *"assist the growers in development and operation of a program for the '43 crop that would insure harvesting and marketing of their potatoes, and would at the same time move that crop through normal channels of distribution with a minimum degree of interference by the government, at prices equivalent to those promised by the government."* So much for the way the man who grows potatoes feels about the government interference in the matter of supply and demand.

As there is no real need for subsidy to the grower, there seems likely to be no need for hard and fast ceilings on retail prices. There is every prospect for a bumper crop of white potatoes in every section of the country. If the crop should be excessively large there might be need for a government price support, but growers by no means feel now there will be such a need. The consumer buying power couples with the low price of potatoes as compared to other foods, to assure the growers with a heavier than normal market for their tubers. The huge crop assures the householder a relatively low cost on the white potatoes he eats. Where is there a visible need for WFA and CCC to step in with subsidy, roll-back, and other devices, disruptive of trade usages?

Answer — There is none. The proposal is of a piece with that put forward a few weeks back, i.e., that England's potatoes now selling in that country for an equivalent of a few cents per bushel, should be used as ballast in returning freighters. Nobody asked our opinion but that proposal smells to high heaven of a willingness of some Washington Anglophile to unload on an Uncle Sam pledged to a support of potato prices, a mountainous pile of England's potatoes, to be paid for in good American money. We don't know which smells the worst—th' potatoes or the proposal!

BUY MORE BONDS for VICTORY

FOR SALE — Iron Age 400 gallon, trailer type potato sprayer, eight row boom. Equipped with a 20 gallon per minute Victory pump and power take off. ON rubber. Practically new. Pump has not been packed since leaving factory. —M. V. Runkle, Telton, Pa., No. 1.

LABOR SITUATION STILL CRITICAL

Continued from page thirteen

tivation was neglected. Casual observers know that weedy fields were most common. Spray applications were irregular in many sections due to the shortage of key men or machine operators. Even though the harvesting and storing of the 1943 potato crops has been fairly well done—growers were faced with the severe handicap of too few workers to do the many important jobs when they were to be done. A day's delay in many critical stages of the growing season can and has spelled failure. Pennsylvania's low average yield this year was not only due to dry weather and an early frost but also due to delays or elimination entirely of necessary critical manipulations or operations.

Growers of large acreages have worked long hours themselves to fill the gaps. The shining example for 1943 was the team-work of "the Whitenights," Mr. and Mrs. "M. P.," if you please. They have worked tirelessly throughout the entire season. Plowing, fitting, planting, cultivating, weeding, spraying, digging, picking, hauling, and storing was their concern throughout the season. Whenever the situation warranted it, and that was often, believe me, either one, Mr. or Mrs. or both, mounted tractors and trucks and kept the jobs moving along. Mrs. Whitenight organized and directed seed-cutting crews day after day—cultivated, sprayed, and drove truck whenever necessary and finally organized and directed picking crews to save the crop. **(We say the "more power to the likes of her." Confidentially Percy and Hazel enjoyed working together like nobody's business.)**

WE BELIEVE IN: INDIVIDUAL INSTRUCTION



Left to Right—R. B. Donaldson, Extension Representative instructing Fred Barrett and John H. Thomas, managers on the farm of Mrs. A. R. Hamilton, Johnstown, R.D. 7.

The British barmaid was a flirt, and when the corporal went out to buy a paper she pursed her lips invitingly and leaned over the bar toward the shy young private.

Putting her face against his, she whispered: "Now's your chance, darling."

The private looked around the empty room. "So it is," he remarked, and promptly drank the corporal's beer.

A doctor, in the agonizing throes of a headache, staggered into the drug store. "Give me some of that prepared minoaceticacidester of salicylic acid," he groaned.

"Do you mean aspirin?" asked the druggist.

"That's it," answered the doctor, "I never can remember that name."

SHALL WE SUBSIDIZE POTATOES?

Nothing more truly marks the American farmer and the American business man as the individualist he is than is their contempt for and the fear of the administration plans for subsidization of foods as a roadway toward price stabilization. Latest and most provocative of the proposals for subsidy is that put forward by WFA and CCC for subsidy to be paid to potato growers. The plan is to apply for growers in Idaho, Maine, Long Island and other areas growing late potatoes, and which constitute the bulk of the nation's potato crop. Almost to a man, the potato growers oppose the proposal.

The plan envisions a roll-back, negligible in amount, in the retail price. It is, as was the roll-back on prices of meat and butter, a political gesture designed to get labor off the neck of political Washington. For one so badly burned as was the WFA on its handling of Virginia and Carolina potatoes (assisted by WPB and OPA) we would think WFA would look askance at any further proposal that it dabble in so sensitive, volatile a crop as potatoes. The government bought and threw away what is said to have been a majority of the crop grown in these states. The editor of the Naborhood Grocer saw carloads being dumped into Roanoke River, and with a newspaper reporter, walked past many cars in local railway yards, the contents of which were then in the last stages of decay. At countless railway points, this gross incompetence resulted in like huge loss of a most valuable food.

Certainly, WFA can have no illusions concerning how the potato growers of the country feel about the matter. A meeting recently held in Washington under its own auspices, had present representatives of virtually every potato-growing section of the nation. Most emphatic action taken was a resolution insisting that the government go no further than to *"assist the growers in development and operation of a program for the '43 crop that would insure harvesting and marketing of their potatoes, and would at the same time move that crop through normal channels of distribution with a minimum degree of interference by the government, at prices equivalent to those promised by the government."* So much for the way the man who grows potatoes feels about the government interference in the matter of supply and demand.

As there is no real need for subsidy to the grower, there seems likely to be no need for hard and fast ceilings on retail prices. There is every prospect for a bumper crop of white potatoes in every section of the country. If the crop should be excessively large there might be need for a government price support, but growers by no means feel now there will be such a need. The consumer buying power couples with the low price of potatoes as compared to other foods, to assure the growers with a heavier than normal market for their tubers. The huge crop assures the householder a relatively low cost on the white potatoes he eats. Where is there a visible need for WFA and CCC to step in with subsidy, roll-back, and other devices, disruptive of trade usages?

Answer — There is none. The proposal is of a piece with that put forward a few weeks back, i.e., that England's potatoes now selling in that country for an equivalent of a few cents per bushel, should be used as ballast in returning freighters. Nobody asked our opinion but that proposal smells to high heaven of a willingness of some Washington Anglophile to unload on an Uncle Sam pledged to a support of potato prices, a mountainous pile of England's potatoes, to be paid for in good American money. We don't know which smells the worst—th' potatoes or the proposal!

BUY MORE BONDS
for
VICTORY

FOR SALE — Iron Age 400 gallon, trailer type potato sprayer, eight row boom. Equipped with a 20 gallon per minute Victory pump and power take off. ON rubber. Practically new. Pump has not been packed since leaving factory. —M. V. Runkle, Telton, Pa., No. 1.

INTENTIONAL SECOND EXPOSURE

THE JUNIOR-GUIDE POST
Pennsylvania Junior
Cooperative Potato Growers Assn.

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Leo H. Stout, Shinglehouse..President
Calvin M. Will, Somerset..V.-President
Daniel W. Keener, Neffs.....Secretary
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Harold Henninger
Catasaugua, Northampton

Annual Membership—$1.00 which includes 12 issues of The GUIDE POST.
Single Copies—25c.

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TENTATIVE PRICES FOR SEED

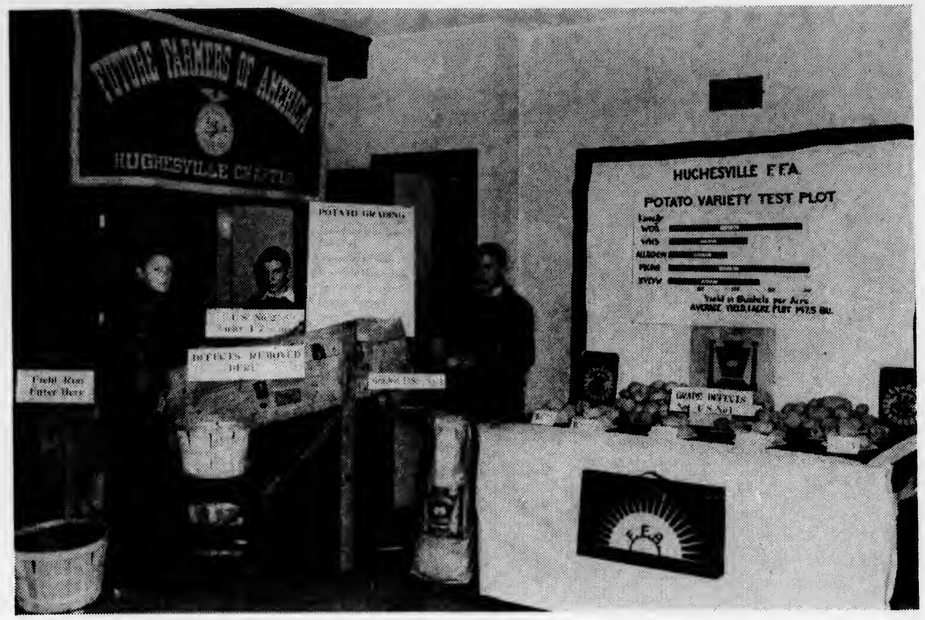
WASHINGTON, D. C., Oct. 15.—Representatives of the seed potato industry meeting with OPA officials in Chicago last week were told that the following price differentials would apply to seed potatoes. Certified seed will obtain a premium of $1 while "War Approved" stock will earn a 50c premium. No differential is provided for selected stock. The proposed action has not yet been signed at OPA but approval at that agency is expected and it will then require WFA agreement.

OPA officials say that failure to provide a selected stock differential was due to the fact that much of the better grade of selected stock will undoubtedly move at War Approved prices and with an anticipated heavy movement of table stock it is unlikely that there will be any considerable up-grading of this latter grade. The regulation probably will not be issued until much later in the month after consideration by WFA.



Boys and young men have been doing and are still doing men's work on the nation's farms. Much credit is due these youngsters. James and Daniel Schrack, sons of Raymond Schrack of Loganton, are doing their part in this War Effort. Handling of heavy machinery is their pride and joy and they do a real job of it. These boys, aged ten and thirteen, took the major responsibility of spraying the 22-acre patch of potatoes this year. They fought off blight and beetles most successfully. Now that cultural practices and harvesting is over they are jumping right into the grading, packaging and marketing of Blue Label potatoes.

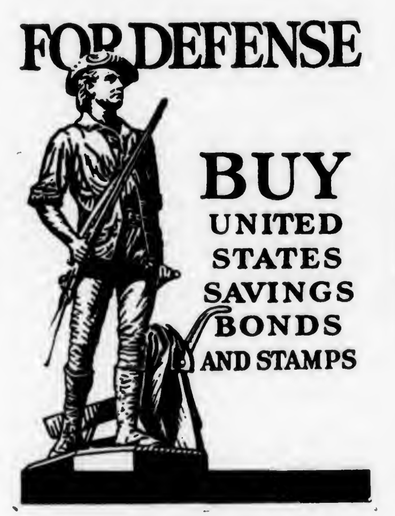
AT THE WILLIAMSPORT F. F. A. AND HOME ECONOMICS FAIR



Left to right—Lester Poust, Freshman; Calvin Diltz, Vice-President, and Grover Gordner, President, Hughesville F. F. A. Chapter. Wm. C. Youngdahl is the energetic Chapter Adviser.

Hughesville F.F.A. Boys, of Lycoming County, placed an attractive exhibit on Potato Seedlings and Potato Grading in the three-day Williamsport Fair sponsored by the Merchants' Bureau of the Community Trade Association. One of the Chapter's co-operative projects this year was planting six seedlings to determine their adaptability to this section. The results, in spite of shallow planting and six rainless weeks, were interesting. WOS and Pocono were the choices as the accompanying sketch indicates. The boys plan to save sufficient seed for another test next season for they realize that this past season was not a fair comparison. To complete the exhibit the boys showed a few typical samples of each variety tested so that visitors might know what to look for should these varieties be particularly adapted.

The Potato Grading phase of the exhibit was centered around a Bogg's Grader—U. S. No. 1 Size B, U. S. Commercial and "Pick-Outs" were displayed properly labeled. By means of an appropriate chart the boys explained the reasons why the grading of potatoes has become an improved and necessary farm practice. This entire potato exhibit "set-up" was under the direction of William Youngdahl, chapter advisor.



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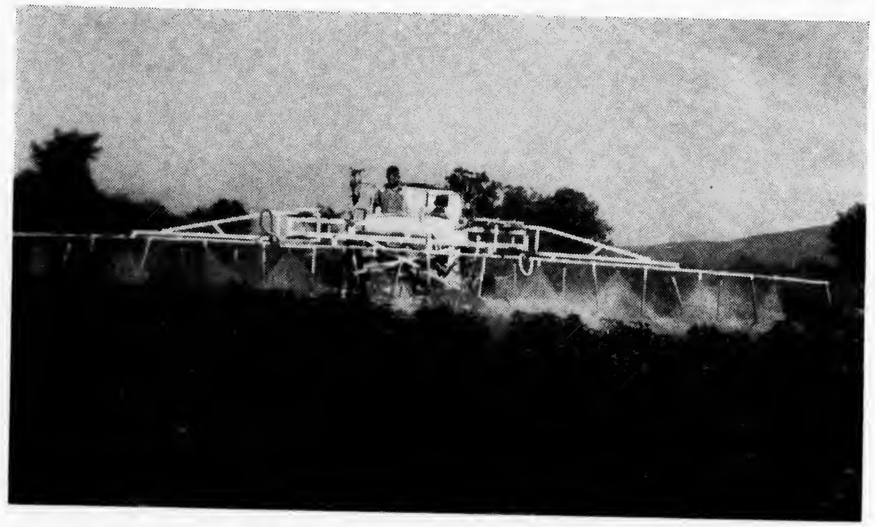
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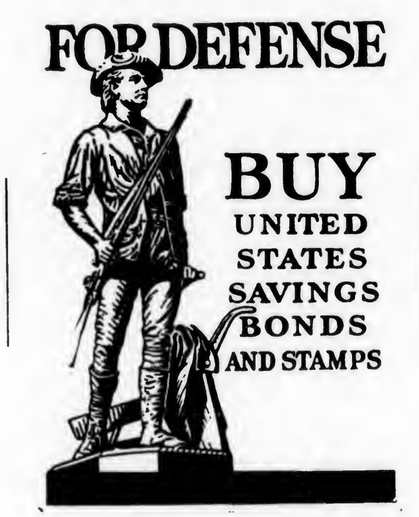
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INTENTIONAL SECOND EXPOSURE

A COMMUNITY STORAGE

Twin-Valley Farmers Exchange—Hegins, Pa.



W. E. ESHELMAN,
Principal and Agri. Teacher

Our 46- by 180-foot building is divided into twenty-eight bins ranging from 650 to 1000 bushels.

18	1000 bushel bins	18000 bushels
4	850 bushel bins	3400 bushels
2	750 bushel bins	1500 bushels
4	650 bushel bins	2600 bushels

Total bin capacity 25500 bushels.

In years of a surplus crop the driveway will hold an additional 15000 bushels, giving us a total capacity of 40000 bushels.

Bins are rented to farmers at a base charge of six cents per bushel for a storage period of six months. It was our thought that this price rate should be final but already we are meeting with difficulty in the farmer who sells early and empties his bin. He feels he should not pay the full rental fee so perhaps some adjustment must be made. It should be thoroughly understood that the potatoes placed in these bins are always the personal property of the grower and he may sell where he pleases. However, we hope he will choose to sell through the Association.

The Exchange has set up a packaging and marketing service in conjunction with the Pennsylvania Co-operative Growers' Association which operates as follows: We will package a farmer's potatoes at a charge of two cents per peck or six cents per fifty-pound bag. This same price prevails for store-door delivery which, added to the bag cost of two and one-half cents, would return a grower 37½ cents per peck when Blue Labels are wholesaling at 44 cents per peck. Our packing service is available to all growers of the area regardless of whether or not they place potatoes in the storage. In addition a grower may package at home and we will give him an outlet for his potatoes.

At the recent Marketing Conference at Harrisburg questions were asked about our financial set-up. This arrangement is rather simple as the writer financed the building. It was the thought of interested farmers that this would avoid friction later on.

The Exchange is packaging graded, candled and cartoned eggs under Quaker State Brand. It is hoped that this quality product will open a state-wide market for eggs, operating in a manner similar to the Blue Label potato package.

During the last week we began to experiment with apples and next season we hope to package both fruits and vegetables in consumer packages.

The writer looks forward to telling GUIDE POST readers of our successes and failures about one year hence. We consider the Community Storage a necessity and we are going to exert every effort to make this initial venture a success.

DIRECTORS MEETING

1:00 P. M.—November 18th—Jennerstown, Somerset County

Evening Session—Open to All Interested

4 H'ers IN POTATO BUSINESS



—Photo by J. B. Warner, County Agent

Elmo Travis (arrow) of Indiana County, a sixteen-year-old 4-H Club boy, operated one of the three spray rings in Indiana County this past season, covering 200 acres eleven times. Elmo is also a member of the 4-H Guernsey calf club. Another 4-H dairy calf club boy in Indiana County, Warren Nichol, operated spray ring No. 3 and covered 210 acres about eleven times. Picture shows a boom adjustment demonstration, conducted by Dr. O. D. Burke, Extension Pathologist of Penn State.

SPRAY and DUST

with

MILLARD MODERN LIMES

Rotary Kiln Products

Crop Protection - Service - Reasonable Cost

H. E. MILLARD

Phone 7-3231 **Annville, Pa.**

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PRAISE FOR POTATOES

Are They "Fattening?" This Honest Answer will Put You Straight

In the days when we, en masse, became diet addicts, potatoes got a bad reputation because they contained starch and were considered fattening and something to be avoided. When we stop to think that only 18 per cent of potatoes by weight are carbohydrate it is hard to understand why they were considered so deadly to the sylph-like figure!

Of course, if plumpish people add bountiful quantities of butter and cream to large portions of mashed potatoes, they're very likely to add weight. But when potatoes are eaten in moderation and are part of a well planned meal, they are not a fattening food. In fact, if your budget is limited, potatoes will be a cheap source of valuable vitamins and should top your market list.

Vitamins Galore!

Besides the starch or carbohydrate mentioned, they supply small amounts of calcium and iron and every vitamin is represented, some in small amounts and others in larger amounts. For example, the vitamin C in a medium-sized potato furnishes 44 per cent of the daily requirement of that vitamin.

When milk, cream, cheese, butter or oleomargarine are added to potatoes the protein, fat, calcium and iron content of the dish is increased. Chopped parsley or green pepper add large quantities of vitamins A and C, since they are among the richest sources of these vitamins. Combining eggs with the potatoes as in a casserole will increase the fat, protein and iron content and make potatoes as important for a main dish as well as a vegetable.

Unless potatoes are prepared carefully, much of their mineral and vitamin content can be lost. But the proper cooking techniques are easy; in fact, by following them meal preparation becomes much simpler.

Serve Them Whole

Potatoes should preferably be served whole. They should be cooked in a small quantity of boiling water or else steamed or baked. Water in which potatoes have been cooked should not be wasted since it contains minerals and vitamins. If you must peel potatoes (not forgetting that potatoes served in their jackets are very good indeed), pare them very thin. And always serve as soon as they are cooked. Don't let them stand for 10 or 15 minutes before the meal is ready. Plan to serve whole parsleyed potatoes at least once a week—and be sure that the family eats all the parsley! Baked potatoes are easy to prepare, and because they preserve all their nutrients intact, should be featured frequently.

Baked potato surprise, for instance, is a main luncheon dish. Bake your potato; when done, place in a towel and roll it gently in your hands to mellow the contents, then cut slashes at right angles at one end, press it down on a plate so that it breaks open, place a teaspoon of grated cheddar or American cheese in the potato and press it down in center until it is entirely covered. Then sprinkle top with salt, paprika and bits of butter. By the time the potato is served the cheese will be melted. The cheese increases the nutritive value of the potato until it is equal to one glass of milk. (Remember that if some members of your family do not like milk!) Insist that the skin of the baked potato is eaten since a large proportion of nutrients are in it.

Potato soup has great possibilities as a main luncheon dish. It is very easy to prepare, and, with a green salad, a glass of milk and toasted enriched bread and butter, adds up to a large share of your daily vitamin and mineral requirements.

Potato Soup

6 medium-sized potatoes
1 onion, chopped
1 teaspoon salt
⅛ teaspoon pepper
3 tablespoons margarine
1 quart scalded milk

Wash and pare potatoes, cut into cubes and place in saucepan with chopped onion. Cover with boiling water. Cook slowly, uncovered, until potatoes are tender. Season and then mash. If potatoes seem lumpy, rub through a coarse sieve. Add milk slowly, add margarine, reheat and serve at once. Approximate yield: 4 servings.

Continued on page twenty-five

CUPROCIDE for potatoes...

Read what other growers say

1 "This is the second year I have used CUPROCIDE Dust on my 100 acres of potatoes with good results . . . aphid infestations are lighter compared with bordeaux . . . blight control is good."

Arthur V. Youngs

2 "CUPROCIDE Dust held my potato vines and controlled blight as well as bordeaux . . . this was a severe test as blight has been worse this season than for the past 15-20 years."

J. Dwight Reeve

3 "We applied CUPROCIDE Dust on 135 acres of potatoes . . . obtained good commercial control of blight . . . find CUPROCIDE Dust very satisfactory in either wet or dry season."

Carl and John Hohorst

4 "I have used Yellow CUPROCIDE spray on my potato acreage for two seasons. This past season I used CUPROCIDE on my entire 90 acres. It gave me excellent control of blight."

Gustaf A. Johnson

LOOK FOR THIS EMBLEM THIS DUST CONTAINS CUPROCIDE A FUNGICIDE MADE BY ROHM & HAAS COMPANY **WHEN YOU BUY DUST**

CUPROCIDE *is a trade-mark, Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.*

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WASHINGTON SQUARE, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

Manufacturers of Chemicals including Plastics . . . Synthetic Insecticides . . . Fungicides . . . Enzymes . . . Chemicals for the Leather, Textile and other Industries

PRAISE FOR POTATOES

Continued from page twenty-three

If grandmother did not have anything planned for supper she always depended upon her golden brown fried potatoes.

She did not worry if there were not any cold boiled potatoes to fry. In fact, when she fried potatoes she preferred to start from scratch.

Pan-Fried Potatoes

8 medium-sized potatoes
¼ cup lard
salt and pepper

Peel and slice potatoes thinly. Saute slowly in covered skillet until tender, about 10 to 15 minutes. Remove cover and allow potatoes to brown, about 10 minutes longer. Stir occasionally to brown potatoes evenly. Approximate yield: 8 servings.

Scalloped Potatoes a la King

3 medium-sized potatoes, peeled and sliced
2 tablespoons minced onion
1 carrot, sliced
½ green pepper, chopped
1 pimiento, finely diced
3 mushrooms, sliced (if desired)
2 tablespoons margarine or butter
1 teaspoon salt
⅛ teaspoon pepper
1 cup milk

Place vegetables and seasonings in greased casserole, toss together with fork until ingredients are well mixed. Add milk. Cover and bake in a hot oven (425° F) 50 minutes or until potatoes are tender. Approximate yield: 4 servings.

BEFORE FREEZING WEATHER

Be sure to drain your sprayer.

Remember to take care of the hose and spray guns—new ones are scarce and hard to get. Oil all parts that would be damaged because of rusting.

Be sure your sprayer is in shape to go through the winter—and plan to make any needed repairs this winter so it will be ready for spring.

Right now—at the completion of the last spray—is the time to drain the pump for freezing weather. Then you won't be caught if you forget it.

If the inside of a steel sprayer tank shows rust and pitting, give it a coat of ordinary machine oil. An occasional application of heavy oil during the spraying season is a fine protection for the tank.

WHEN YOU WANT THE SAFEST CARE FOR YOUR POTATOES—PACK THEM IN

"HAMMOND BETTERBAGS"

Because They Are

ATTRACTIVE-ECONOMICAL-CONVENIENT
DURABLE-STRONG

HAMMOND Betterbags WELLSBURG, W.VA.

HAMMOND BAG & PAPER CO.

WELLSBURG, W. VA.

A Call "To Action" on the Food Front

In launching a "Food Fights for Freedom" campaign recently, Marvin Jones, U. S. War Food Administrator, called for the enlistment on the food battle front of all who grow food, distribute it or use it. That means every one in America.

Mr. Jones praised the farmers for their miraculous job of expanding production in the face of difficulties. Mr. Jones said in part:

"As battle fronts widen and lengthen, as our armies increase, and those of our allies, as we liberate more peoples, the already large claims on our food output will rise higher and higher.

"In the circumstances, every American is called on to produce all the food he can, to conserve every crumb, to share fairly. Every American will play his full part if completely and correctly informed.

"Our fighting men and our allies urgently need and are getting 23 per cent of our total production. That they richly deserve their necessary requirements, no one will deny. We must provide 2 per cent of our total supply to our neighbors.

"The remaining 75 per cent is earmarked for civilian consumption here at home, but huge as this supply will be, it falls short of satisfying wartime demand for food. This does not mean that we will go hungry. There is sufficient food for an adequate diet for all of us. But we must inform Americans of the facts so they may act to play square with our precious food resources.

"Therefore, as War Food Administrator of the United States, with a profound awareness of the food job that confronts each and every one of us, sound this call to action."

OBJECTIVES

"The Food Fights For Freedom campaign is an official program of the U. S. War Food Administration. Its purpose is to reach every individual American—to make all aware of the fact that food is a war material of first importance, and thereby develop complete understanding of any co-operation with the role food now plays in the successful prosecution of the war. The important objectives of the campaign are:

1. *To Increase Food Production*—on farms, in orchards, on ranches, in victory gardens, put every employable acre in America to work!

2. *To Increase Food Conservation*—it is estimated that 20 per cent of the food produced in America is wasted! Much of this waste is avoidable and we must reduce it! EAT EVERY CRUMB, STARVE OUR GARBAGE PAILS. This alone will sharply increase our food resources.

3. *To Increase Food Sharing* — war needs come first. Our own armed forces and their fighting allies must be well fed. This requires approximately 25 per cent of our food supply. The remaining 75 per cent we must share equitably on the home front so that all will have adequate diets.

4. *To Play Square With Food*—respect it for what it is — a vital war weapon. We must kill black markets, discourage hoarding, observe ration regulations, comply with ceiling prices.

Three things to remember: The value of time—
the pleasure of working—the obligation of duty.

ALBERT C. ROEMHILD
Commission Merchant

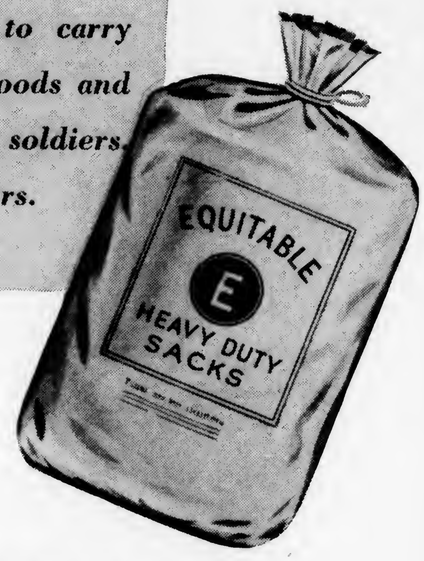
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Equitable Heavy-Duty Kraft Sacks

report for duty prepared to carry through all conditions the foods and chemicals required by our soldiers, allies and home front workers.



We've answered the call with the best sacks we've ever produced... designed especially for

POTATOES . . . FERTILIZERS
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GIVES more returns per acre...

Farquhar Iron Age Diggers are especially designed to reduce mechanical injury to potato tubers. Potato growers everywhere praise their remarkable injury-preventing performance. They know that Farquhar Iron Age's consistently bigger return of U. S. No. 1 potatoes soon pays for the initial investment of the digger.

If you want more returns per acre when you dig potatoes, large-capacity Iron Age is the machine for you. One-row model has 27-inch elevator apron. Two-row machine has 60-inch apron. Write for details on Farquhar Iron Age . . . your potato crop's most important insurance.



AWARDED FEB. 8, 1943

Industry's flag of freedom waves in the air above the plants of the Farquhar Company . . . presented by the Army and Navy for outstanding production of war material.

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Plant and Spray the IRON AGE Way



A. B. FARQUHAR CO., Limited, YORK, PA.

VISION OF PENNSYLVANIA GROWERS

THE GUIDE POST

VOLUME XX — NUMBER 11

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NOVEMBER—1943

Published by the

PENNSYLVANIA COOPERATIVE POTATO GROWERS ASSOCIATION

INCORPORATED



CUPROCIDE for potatoes...

Read what other growers say

1 "This is the second year I have used CUPROCIDE Dust on my 100 acres of potatoes with good results . . . aphid infestations are lighter compared with bordeaux . . . blight control is good."

Arthur V. Youngs

2 "CUPROCIDE Dust held my potato vines and controlled blight as well as bordeaux . . . this was a severe test as blight has been worse this season than for the past 15-20 years."

J. Dwight Reeve

3 "We applied CUPROCIDE Dust on 135 acres of potatoes . . . obtained good commercial control of blight . . . find CUPROCIDE Dust very satisfactory in either wet or dry season."

Carl and John Hohorst

4 "I have used Yellow CUPROCIDE spray on my potato acreage for two seasons. This past season I used CUPROCIDE on my entire 90 acres. It gave me excellent control of blight."

Gustaf A. Johnson

LOOK FOR THIS EMBLEM THIS DUST CONTAINS CUPROCIDE A FUNGICIDE MADE BY ROHM & HAAS COMPANY **WHEN YOU BUY DUST**

CUPROCIDE *is a trade-mark, Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.*

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THE GUIDE POST

published by

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Volume XX **November, 1943** **Number 11**

A PROSPEROUS POTATO INDUSTRY

Conclusions After 25 Years of Experimentation, Demonstration and Observation

DR. E. L. NIXON

A Program leading to a profitable potato industry involves the consideration of the land and its utilization.

I will take the liberty of changing the title of the powerful lines of Harry Kemp's "Song of the Plow" to **Land and its Utilization** and adapt the poem to the new title.

Land and its Utilization

It was **we** who built Chaldea and the cities of the Plain;
We were Greece and Rome and Carthage and the opulence of Spain.
When their courtiers walked in scarlet and their queens wore chains of gold,
And forgot 'twas **we** that made them, growing Godless folk and bold,
We went over them in judgment, and again **our** cornfields stood
Where empty courts bowed homage in obsequious multitude——
For the nation that forgets us, (land its utilization) in that hour her doom is sealed.
By a judgment as from Heaven that can never be repealed.

We dare not raise up a generation ignorant of the land and unappreciative of its proper utilization. For the nation that forgets **us,** in that hour her doom is sealed—Rural families and rural communities are the life blood of the nation. On their preservation and development depends the well-being of the entire nation — socially, biologically and economically. For the nation that forgets **us,** in that hour doom is sealed.

If we lose the art and science of retaining or rebuilding the soil fertility through greed or stupidity, then we ourselves shall be doomed to a just extinction, "for there is no one who does not live on what the land brings forth." Yet, how far away has mankind, in this modern civilization, gotten from this simple truth!

It is said on good authority, that no country on the face of the earth has depleted its soils as rapidly as has the U. S. A. This is only a natural sequence of what is said to have made America Great. We exploited our "inexhaustible" forests until today there is but one tenth enough for our nation at war. We have exploited our minerals until the waste alone at present costs equals the original valuation. We have exploited our soils until it is too late to retrench or is it?

Soil Erosion in the United States From U. S. Census

Sheet Erosion	**Acres**
"Gone"	192,000,000
"Going"	663,000,000
Area Affected	855,260,347
Gulley Erosion	
"Gone"	4,000,000
"Rapidly Going"	337,000,000
"Beginning"	523,000,000
Area affected	864,818,281

Fifty-nine per cent of our country is affected by erosion. We lose over three billion tons of good soil every year. The great dust storm in 1936 took in one day three million tons of rich top soil and deposited it on the window sills of the Atlantic seaboard, two thousand miles away.

There is a body of water off China called the Yellow Sea named in "honor" of an eroded China, the land of floods and famine. There is still time for the Gulf of Mexico to be called the Yellow Sea. China's Yellow Sea was once black; so is the Mississippi River.

When Mr. A. C. Ramseyer and I started from Philadelphia to Mexico, he said, "Which way do we go?" I replied, "I would like to follow the route as near to the coast line as is travelable by auto." I wanted to see if all of these rivers, whose names I had to learn and whose courses I had to describe as a student in geography, really existed other than in a book. I thought it would be interesting and so it proved to be, to see how big they looked as they approached the coast, and what they did to the ocean or gulf or bay into which they flowed. Well that is a story in and of itself.

Suffice it to say in this article that the sea is the greatest thing God made. With all of these rivers flowing at full blast one gigantic wave of the ocean and their identity is forever obliterated. Yet in time, they do something to the coast line. It is clear that they are not building farms as fast as they destroy them; but over the ages they have done a pretty good job of farm construction for on the estuaries and banks of many of these rivers we found the most fertile of all soil. And why not, did it not come originally from the most fertile of all farms of internal U.S.A. Standing at the mouths of these various rivers one could readily believe that the estimated 126,000,000 pounds of plant food are lost each year. One wonders if the estimate is high enough. The water in many of these rivers looked actually as thick as molasses. Someone has said look in the garbage can for a measuring stick in household economy. It might be added look at the mouth of rivers and streams for the measuring stick of the land and its utilization.

The present farmers are not altogether to blame for the debauchery of land and its utilization. Exploitation is what made America great. America had everything "inexhaustable." Didn't the Jab Beetles run wild when it was introduced to a new country where mass production was the rule! Didn't the Jipsey Moth threaten to take all before it? Even the lowly chestnut blight fungus swept all before it in an inexhaustible chestnut forest.

American land and its utilization were not laid out with any more sense or reason than that manifested by the Jap Beetle, or Chestnut blight. They all followed the path of least resistance. The early land exploiter knew that when he annihilated his soil he could move on west. He never dreamed that the west was exhausible.

Now American agriculture has the problem of rebuilding the fertility of the land, and conserving and properly utilizing what is left. It seems like a strange coincidence that most of the hillsides got cleared and converted into farm land and most of the level plateaus are still in woods. There are hundreds of thousands of acres of land in Pennsylvania "as level as a floor" waiting for the "pioneer" with, vision to see, faith to believe, and courage to do. There are hundreds of thousands of acres of abandoned farm land in Pennsylvania. It was abandoned in the first place because it was isolated. No year around roads, no electric lights, no telephone, no community or neighborly interest. Gifford Pinchot said during his first inaugural as governor of Pennsylvania, "The road policy during my administration will be not to Guild the Lily but to Provide Potatoes." We still need a lot of "potato roads" back in the frontiers of Pennsylvania's Agriculture.

It was abandoned in the second place because it was not properly utilized. Some of it was planted to crops which it was not adapted to grow, and for which there was no market.

It was abandoned thirdly because there was no vision to adapt the operations to the circumstances. It was easier to go west, or to the industries. There was no self reliance, no backbone; no strength of will necessary to undertake responsibility; no courage to face the problems and take command; no courage to dominate a situation. A lack of what it took—that made America great. It was not abandoned because it lacked inherent fertility.

A Pennsylvania potato farm has the longest record of a potato rotation in maintaining the soil fertility of any in the nation. Pennsylvania has more farms than any other state in the union capable of producing over 400 bushels of potatoes per acre. (She has a membership of over 2000 in her 400 bu. potato club.) If you want to know something about the fertility level of your field, see how near it will produce 400 bushels of potatoes per acre.

It was abandoned because urban America had no interest in rural America other than exploitation. Urban America never thought that a peasantry agriculture has no purchasing power. They never knew that for every thousand dollars turned over by agriculture seven thousand dollars turns over in industry. Urban America had not been impressed with the lines too little known by those whom they most concern;

"For the nation that forgets us,
in that hour her doom is sealed,
By a judgment as from Heaven
that can never be repealed."

HOW DO YOU MARKET

Pennsylvania Potatoes

This is a big question—which you might answer in a dozen ways, if your potato program is not aligned with the Association marketing program. You might sell a few to an itinerant trucker—a few more to a commission merchant—a load or two to "retail" customers calling at your farm—an occasional part load to a local grocer—and you may have many more outlets. Perhaps you knew at harvest, exactly where each bushel could be placed at the market price—perhaps not. If you pack through the Association and sell in Blue Labels, we know that you have this harvest-time confidence.

Suppose you haven't tried the Association program? Then, what is your program? Is it one which will compensate you for the production of your crop? Do you have dependable buyers eager for your crop—and willing to pay you the market price for it—or are you now just beginning to look at your overflowing barn and wondering, "Now my crop is made; where can I best dispose of it?" And do you wonder if, this year, you will be fortunate enough to miss getting that one bouncing check that bit into last year's small enough profits—or wonder if you will not have that one big load first rejected, then reconsidered, and finally accepted, by a conniving buyer, at 20c less per bag—when your expert knowledge of quality makes you sure the grade is right?

We do not suggest that all potato sales are dishonest; we do not suggest our method of merchandising is the only successful means. We do suggest that if you are a grower who has had unjust experiences in disposing of a potato crop in a past year, because your individual acquaintanceship with market condition was insufficient protection, and you have not profited as you should, then, this season, for a trial, see what the cooperative plan can do for you.



P. Daniel Frantz, Branch Sales and Service Manager at Allentown—is always on the job ready and anxious to be of assistance to all growers. If you have a PROBLEM call on him—he's your man in the East.

The Association marketing plan is devised for just folks like you—for the good grower who has a good product which is needed—by a greater demand than you can realize as you stand at the barndoor and see your farm "surplus"—if it is placed before the trade systematically.

The Association plan is devised so that you can have a steady market, for your entire crop, at so many loads per day or week, until it is exhausted, each load placed so that its sale will not

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INTENTIONAL SECOND EXPOSURE



Roy Hess, Benton, Columbia County, contact man for the Association is doing a grand job of Servicing and Selling Potatoes. Roy moves more than a half million pecks in northeastern Pennsylvania every year. He is staunch and loyal to the Cooperative Program. Contact him—he'll put you straight on grading and marketing SPUDS.

weaken your next sale—or the sales of your neighbor.

It is devised to give you protection from the truckman who wants to "steal" a load, at an unfair figure, because he thinks you will not check-up, and he is right, when he threatens that if you don't accept his offer, your neighbor, who has less potatoes in distress, will sell, willingly, at the same figure.

The Association program endeavors to give its cooperators a market steady enough to reduce the possibilities of surplusses to a minimum, throughout the season—even at the period just before the first big freeze—when potatoes are actually a surplus.

If a lone potato sales program has not profited you, then look to the simplicity of the cooperative program your Association has devised for your benefit, your protection and profit.

To be served by the program, you need little other than a desire to be served and a potato crop to sell.

To participate in the benefits of it, you need no expensive supplies or hired experts. You need the Association trademarked bag, yes, but you need some bag, however you market! You need an Association Grade Supervisor or your picking table and with your packing crew, yes; but you need an experienced man at this job anyhow—no matter what grade you pack—in all fairness to yourself. You may as well have that boy of yours trained at no cost to you, and licensed (at practically no cost) to do you a real job of *making the grade.*



Remember this?—An ideal "setup"—nice to have but not always available. A simpler device is shown on opposite page. Many growers have "improvised" and improved on present packing and grading equipment.

In the Association program the assistance you need is constantly available. If you want to sell several loads of potatoes, you make it known to the Association office at Williamsport, where sale is immediately arranged with a market convenient to you—at a price in line with the market and at a price agreeable to you before the sale is closed. Then immediately following delivery this sale price on the full lot sold is sent direct to you from the buyer, immediately, and no deductions.

This program of the Association has been presented before—often; it is starting its eighth year; it has proven itself in many ways—and is growing to such an extent that you are conscious of the impression it has made in merchandising generally, and potato selling specifically, whether you have enjoyed its benefits directly or indirectly. Yet, we must again present it, so you, as a member of the Association, cannot feel its benefits are not for you—so that you will not feel that you are not a part of it if you want to—or need to be.

This season, it has frequently come to the attention of your management that growers who should be familiar with the program are outside of it because they are uninformed. Some growers have contacted cooperating Association buyers with a plea for potato business, and stated they had no market and were not a part of the Association program. These buyers have directed these growers to us, in the spirit of real cooperation, and



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INTENTIONAL SECOND EXPOSURE

because, actually, they want and prefer the Blue Label pack. But the reach through the buyer is the hard way—and the program is devised solely in the spirit of the "easy way." Don't hesitate, to let your Association serve you. The market has been established for you and for your neighbor. Don't wonder why you are not enjoying it—or how you align yourself, with it. Just ask yourself, now, if an assured market for the crop you have harvested is a need of yours. Did you say it was? Well, then, fellow cooperator, with this decision your problem is already on its way to solution. This market can be yours. It is yours for the asking. Don't wonder, WRITE!

A note, a post card, or a call, will bring you the Association market—almost that fast. It is yours to share—yours to enjoy—yours for a greater personal success—yours for the greater success of your fellow cooperators, and yours for the success of the Pennsylvania potato industry.

The Association program is completely unselfish, and yet it does need you as you need it, for the ultimate success of the entire industry of the State.

DON'T wonder any longer. Write or Call your nearest Association Office—Williamsport, Allentown, Butler.

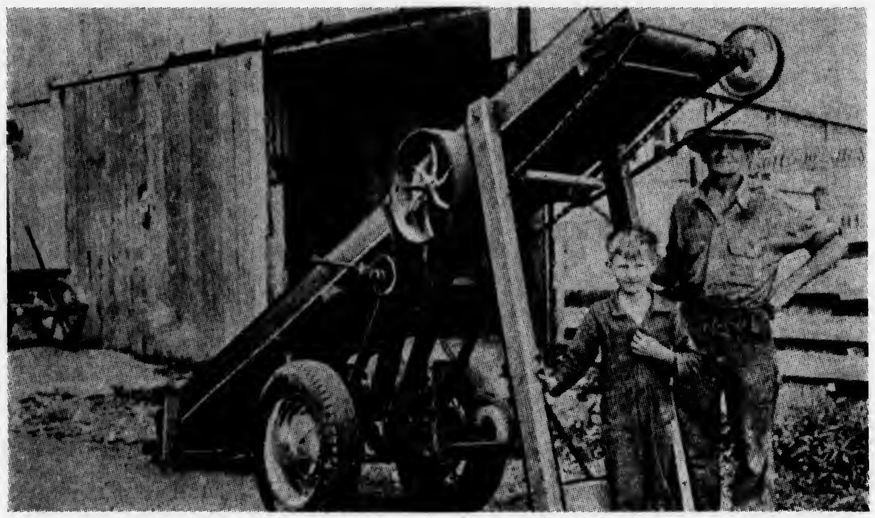
See address page 14.

A POTATO CONVEYOR SAVES LABOR

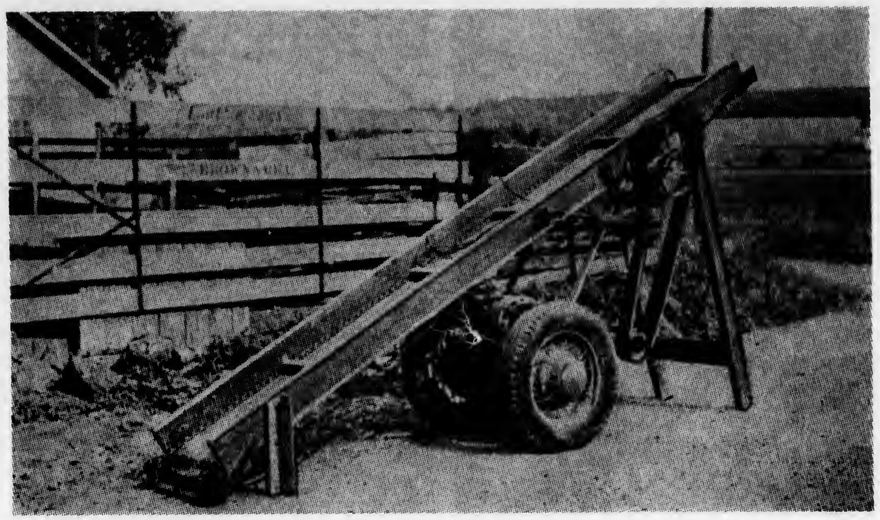
Built from parts of old machinery, Ford Wheels, No. 55 or No. 62 Chain and a 1 HP Motor. It may be used in many ways.

John N. Stoltzfus, who designed and built the loader shown in these illustrations, operates three good Chester County farms, near Parkesburg, Pennsylvania. One of his specialties is potatoes and he made the elevator to help handle the crop more expeditiously. Since he has more than 56 acres this year, and they are as fine as he has ever raised, first class equipment, kept in first class shape, will be worth a lot.

Starting with an electrically operated seed cutter, all the way to the final loading of graded bags of potatoes on trucks, all the work is completely mechanized. In spare times he does quite a bit of custom spraying, and other work to keep men and equipment busy. He also believes in going over his farm machinery whenever there is a rainy day so that all repairs and service work is done long before it is needed in the field. Most of this work is done at home with the aid of a well equipped shop.



Mr. Stoltzfus and his boy by the completed elevator. This view shows the speed reducing shafts and pulleys and the method of supporting the elevator. There are two jack-shafts between the motor and elevator drive pulley. We do not know the pulley sizes but they appear to be about 3" on the motor to 9" on the first shaft, then 5" to 18" and finally V pulleys 4" to 10" which would give a conveyor speed of about 30 feet per minute.



Conveyor, showing the anchor legs at the lower end, the spacing of hardwood flights and the belt tightener. No. 55 or No. 62 chain is used with A-1 special links for attaching the flights.

Loader Built in Home Shop

The loader was built on the farm, and practically all the machine parts except a couple of V-belt drives, were either salvaged from discarded machinery or purchased from nearby junk dealers. It consists mainly of an eighteen-inch-wide trough mounted over a cut down Ford front axle assembly. It is twelve feet long, and could easily be made longer and wider to handle jobs like stacking bales of hay or straw from a pick-up baler.

The trough has 2 x 4's for side rails, and an inch thick bottom of matched lumber. This is protected from wear by a covering of thin sheet iron. The iron is also extended around the belt shaft on each end.

Ordinary chain with No. 55 links is used to carry the flights. The belt is driven from the top, which means that the pull is direct from the top sprocket wheels. This is more satisfactory than a drive from the bottom, and also easier to rig up since the bottom end is intended to be used at a low height. The flights are made of hard wood and are $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches square by a little over fifteen inches long.

A one-horsepower, 1750-R.P.M. motor was used, mainly because it was available. Actually a little less power would do the work adequately, and if any difficulty was experienced all that would be necessary would be to cut down the belt speed a little.

The loader as built is very easy to handle. It is equipped with a long extension cord, and a control switch is mounted on the outside of the trough. Two men can usually wheel it around the place as necessary. Mr. Stoltzfus says that if he couldn't build another one like it, he would not sell it for a thousand dollars. They use it for several jobs but its main function is loading potatoes. The elevator is wheeled into place right back of the grader and scales. The bags are filled and weighed, and set on the elevator which carries them to the back of a truck as fast as the driver can get them out of the way. The loader saves two or three men at least, and makes the work go faster and easier than hand loading.

because, actually, they want and prefer the Blue Label pack. But the reach through the buyer is the hard way—and the program is devised solely in the spirit of the "easy way." Don't hesitate, to let your Association serve you. The market has been established for you and for your neighbor. Don't wonder why you are not enjoying it—or how you align yourself, with it. Just ask yourself, now, if an assured market for the crop you have harvested is a need of yours. Did you say it was? Well, then, fellow cooperator, with this decision your problem is already on its way to solution. This market can be yours. It is yours for the asking. Don't wonder, WRITE!

A note, a post card, or a call, will bring you the Association market—almost that fast. It is yours to share—yours to enjoy—yours for a greater personal success—yours for the greater success of your fellow cooperators, and yours for the success of the Pennsylvania potato industry.

The Association program is completely unselfish, and yet it does need you as you need it, for the ultimate success of the entire industry of the State.

DON'T wonder any longer. Write or Call your nearest Association Office—Williamsport, Allentown, Butler.

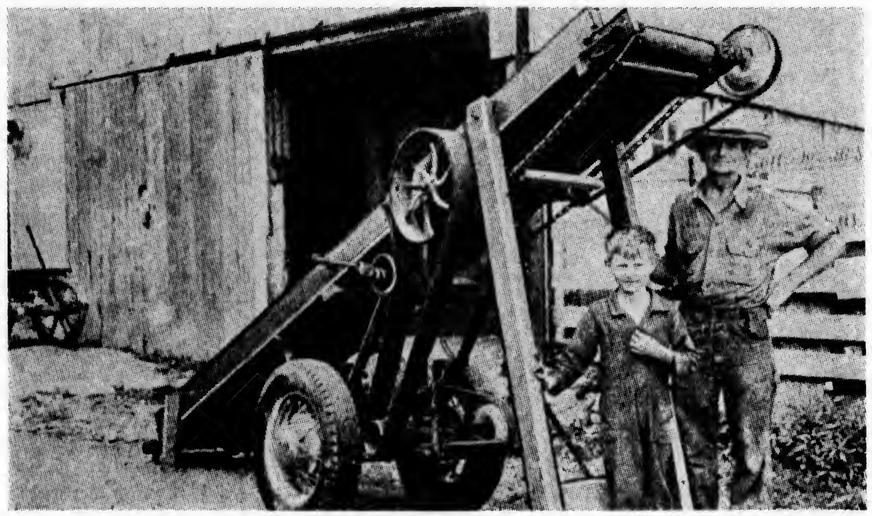
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A POTATO CONVEYOR SAVES LABOR

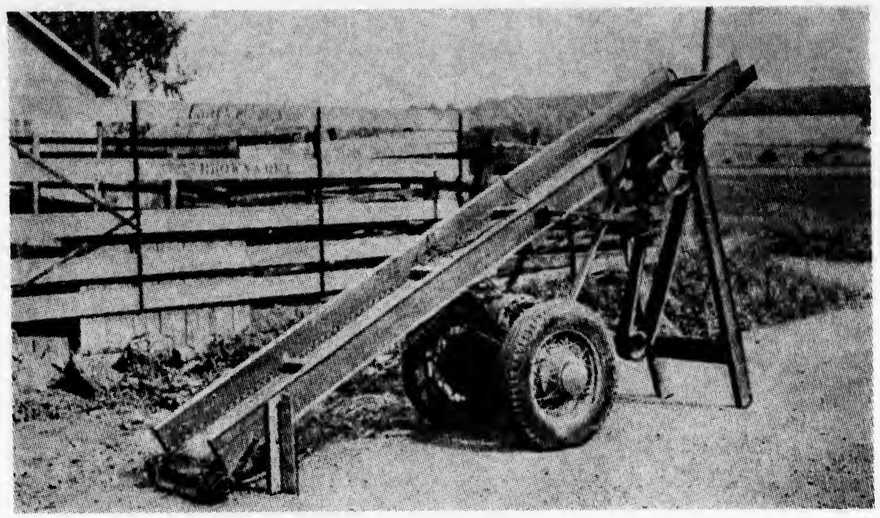
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INTENTIONAL SECOND EXPOSURE

AREA MARKETING CONFERENCE

White Star Inn, Jennerstown, November 18th, 1943

Somerset County does the Honors

In order to do honor to Somerset County Potato Growers, the directors of the Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers' Association, decided early last Fall to meet somewhere in Somerset County for their regular business session and to hold a community gathering of growers the following evening for the renewing of acquaintances and the promotion of good fellowship and understanding. The Cooperative movement from the marketing and purchasing angle in Somerset County is growing by leaps and bounds. Today this county ranks well up among the top five counties of the state in total potato production and total cooperative sales. She is known for her cooperative egg movement and for that good unadulterated maple syrup. For the above reasons the program committee decided to make this meeting a truly cooperative one by inviting not only potato growers but egg producers, supply distributors, food distributors, and officials. Like a rolling snow-ball one idea developed into another and grew finally to the point where an area Joint Marketing Conference presented itself.

Jennerstown was a happy selection for the meeting. Hotel, dining room, and assembly rooms were ample to accomodate over one hundred interested people. In addition to the state directors of the potato association fully twenty growers from neighboring counties, responded to invitation. Representatives of large food distributors came for the evening from Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, Altoona and Johnstown. These distributors were interested in the cooperative movement as well as interested in purchasing potato and eggs in quantity.

A Reporter's Report

A happy triumverate of growers, cooperative men and chain store officials got together at the White Star Hotel in Jennerstown on November 18 for a dinner that was outstanding both for the quality of the food and the general spirit of the gathering.

The dinner was held in recognition of the success of the direct marketing of eggs and potatoes in Somerset County and it was sponsored by the Somerset County Farm Bureau, the Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers' Association and the Pennsylvania Chain Store Council.

Those who sat down to the groaning board were unanimous in their praise of the turkey, which was furnished by Robert Lohr of Boswell; the potatoes, provided by E. L. Nixon, and the rest of the abundant fare provided by the hotel—not forgetting the maple syrup which came from Somerset County trees to adorn golden brown waffles. Approximately 100 persons sat down to the feast, their appetites whetted by the brisk air of the "Roof Garden" of Pennsylvania—the state's most altitudinous county.

Presiding at the dinner were E. M. Shaulis, president of both the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau and the Somerset County Farm Bureau; Fred W. Johnson, president of the Chain Store Council, and M. P. Whitenight, president of the Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers Association. They shared the toastmaster chores, all the while fondling a large Nixon potato which they threatened to hand over to the speaker who exceeded eight minutes in his talk.

A feature of the meeting was the appearance of Mrs. Herman Mostoller of Friedens, a member of the Women's Guild of the Somerset Farm Bureau, who called on farm women to take a more active interest in the business aspects of farm life. She said that too often members of women's farm organizations were interested only in social activities whereas they could do much to increase the efficiency and profits of farm operations.

Earl R. French of the Atlantic Commission Company, produce buying affiliate of the A & P Tea Company, told the gathering American farmers were doing a magnificent job in helping to prosecute the war.

"The farmer has put no limit on his hours," he said, "he has had but one objective—to produce food for our fighters and the fighters of our allies."

French said, "the farmer was asked to do even a bigger job next year." He said, "that although potato growers this year exceeded the production record by 40,000,000 bushels, they were asked to surpass this new record by two per cent next year."

Waste was attacked by French who called for an all-out war on this home front saboteur.

"The amount of food wasted on farms, in victory gardens, in the channels of distribution, in grocery stores, in eating places, and in the homes is estimated to total between 20 to 30 per cent of all the food produced in the United States annually," he said. "To get a perspective of how much this amounts to, let me point out that if even one-third of this food were saved, it would amount to as much as we are sending to our allies in 1943."

The speaker said that a persistent war on waste had enabled some food distributors to decrease its spoilage rate by 50 per cent, between 1922 and 1942.

Other speakers on the program were Merl Ream, manager of the Somerset Farm Bureau; C. W. Knauf of the American Stores; R. W. Lohr, Director of the Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers; Dr. E. L. Nixon, Cecil C. MacDowell, county agent of Somerset; Jack Warner, county agent of Indiana County; H. S. Agster, manager of the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau; Glenn Knickerbocker of the Kroger Baking and Grocery Company, and Gillian Friedline, manager of the egg division of the Somerset Farm Bureau.

Knauf praised the job the farmers were doing and pointed out that they were doing it without fanfare.

"There are no Army-Navy 'E' awards going to farmers," he said. "No flags waving and all that. But the farmers are doing a job and for that job they deserve a fair profit. The makers of airplanes and tanks are getting a profit with their 'E' awards. The farmer should get a legitimate profit too."

Lohr told of experiences in his early days as a farmer. He remembered driving a wagon 14 miles to Johnstown with 26 bushels of potatoes for which he was paid $5.68, this sum being somewhat reduced by expenses.

"But I'm still a farmer and proud of it," he said.

Dr. E. L. Nixon, was called upon to address the group. He choose "Land and its Utilization" as his topic and stressed the need of a permanent program of maintenance of soil fertility. He insisted that there are many many acres of tillable and adaptable land in Pennsylvania that could and should be reclaimed. Northern, Western, Eastern, and Southern counties all have land adapted. We have the markets and we have the land so why not get out and develop both. In closing Dr. Nixon quoted a poem entitled, The Guide Post, which he gleaned from McGuffey's Reader. It is most fitting and timely. The Doctor made a direct plea for membership to the association offering to refund any man's money if he feels that he is not getting his money's worth. Director W. W. Hayes followed up the membership discussion with several good reasons why every potato grower should be a member of the state association.

Agster said that the cooperative was a bulwark against social theories foreign to our American way of life. He said that through the cooperative the little fellow of agriculture can find his place in the sun and is less likely to become bait for social agitators. He said that through the cooperative the small farmer could profitably market his products and at the same time retain his individual identity.

CERTIFIED

SEED POTATOES

* * *

Maine and North Dakota

Carloads and Less

* * *

SPRING SHIPMENTS

E. A. TREXLER

Trexler, Pa.

* * *

Phone—Krumsville 36-12

SECRETARY takes STAND against SUBSIDIES

The Basic Principle is wrong.

"A great majority of Pennsylvania farmers are vigorously opposed to government consumer and production subsidies," Secretary of Agriculture Horst said recently. "They fully realize that subsidies are brakes and not accelerators for food production; that subsidies mean the consumer will pay later for what he now can buy for less; that they themselves will be called upon later to help make up an avoidable financial deficiency.

"The increasing procession of consumer food price rollbacks and inadequate production subsidies are to the farmer what a red flag is to the bull in his pasture.

"Farmers have been telling their Congressmen about it and Congressmen have been telling bureaucratic Washington about it for months, but plans for subsidies are still being announced.

"Farmers are wondering, for example, how much it will cost the government—and eventually the farmer and other taxpayers—to set up and operate a force to receive the check reports and write and deliver individual checks for proposed paltry milk subsidies to hundreds of thousands of dairy farmers each month.

"They are saying it would be more to the point to divert that expense and personnel to actual food and feed production and then there would be more food for all.

"All the farmer wants is freedom to go ahead and produce through honest effort with manpower, machines and prices definitely assured.

"The successful farmer is a good business man. He wants opportunity, not charity. He is not being taken in by the made-to-order food and cost statistics eminating from confused and conflicting agencies in Washington.

Farmers Suspicious

"Consumers subsidies are a new departure of which the farmer is suspicious. He sees in them a further regimentation that could be disastrous to food production. He believes they are not justified by present conditions and are the result of attempts to found a national economy on little more than garbled statistics. He believes with Senator Aiken that consumer subsidies will make the poor poorer and the rich richer.

"Further, our common-sense farmers believe that consumer subsidies, such as have been applied to beef and butter, will not accomplish the purpose for which they were established—to keep down the cost of living. Many farmers have expressed to me their belief that such subsidies actually are inflationary, chiefly because they are equivalent to wage increases, or sales taxes working in reverse.

"Our informed farmers believe that if control of agricultural production is established by subsidy it will mean eventual government control of all agriculture. They believe the system is un-American and too expensive, and that the future need not be mortgaged to pay for the present. They say the reaction will be toward greater food shortages instead of away from shortages, and there seems to be evidence to support that view.

"To summarize, farmers are opposed to subsidies because they believe subsidies are ineffective, unjustified, inflationary, discouraging to production, and certain to lead to further regimentation and dictation."

—FOR SALE—

POTATO SPRAYER — 410 gal. Steel Tank, 35 gal. Bean Pump, 10 row boom, refiller and 22' of hose, good tires. Rig in good shape—$1250.00

Decto-Gram Scales — 15-25 lb. Capacity — $65.00

JOHN N. STOLTZFUS PARKESBURG, R. D. 1, PENNA.

MEMBERSHIPS

NEW and RENEWAL since Last Issue of The GUIDE POST

Roy Thompson, Coudersport
Warren H. Sames, Richlandtown
Nelson Yocum, Catawissa
Melvin N. Eberly, New Holland
Chas. Clouser, Schnecksville
Samuel B. Snyder, Drums
Paul and Amil Toplovich, Columbus
Glenn Glouse, New Enterprise
Lee Hines, Cochranton
Franklin Hausman, Neffs
R. C. Holmes, Shinglehouse
Louis J. Zundel, Galeton
O. N. Moore, Emlenton
S. Y. Ramage, Oil City
C. P. Hendershot, Rockland
Roy H. Benjamin, Conyngham
Charles Harmony, Allentown
N. A. Brown, Jerome
Gerald Romesberg, Berlin
James Will, Somerset
J. E. Naugle, Hooversville
G. Y. Walker, Berlin
Guy Shaffer, Hoovlersville
Milton Weaver, Windber
Elwood Schmuder, Friedens
Royal Rhoads, Stoyestown
E. M. Shaulis, Holsopple
C. W. Hendershot, Emlenton
Melvin C. Owens, Clearfield
Worth Hammond, Corry
Clifford Roedel, Coopersburg
Samuel Sweitzer, Nisbet
Robert McInroy, Middlebury Center
Wm. P. Young, Hagerstown, Md.
Clarion Farm Bureau, Clarion
Glenn J. Link, Erie
Dorsey Ellason, Jordan
Ray Goodrich, Roulette
Howard Mitchell, Oil City
Ernest Rembold, Cranberry
Chas. E. Shauer, Nickelville
Richard Reitz, Brookville
American Potash Institute, Washington, D. C.
Marple Brothers, Shinglehouse
Harvey B. Walker, Berlin
S. J. Henninger, Boswell
Frank Westrick Jr., Patton
Clark Stahl, Somerset
Robert H. Seider, Berlin
Vernon Shockey, Friedens
Fred Barrett, Johnstown
W. H. Barrett, Somerset
John Stovalsky, Johnstown
E. Paul Hoover, Patton

Certified SEED POTATOES

Maine—Cobblers Katahdins
Chippewas Sebagos

Growing conditions were near ideal throughout the entire season for high yields. Rapid growth of vines hindered roguing which resulted in more than usual acreage being rejected. Tubers range comparatively large, requiring a heavy "pick-out" for oversize when graded to meet our requirements. Cobbler shipping tonnage will scarcely equal last season's volume while but a limited increase is expected in supply of Katahdins and Sebagos.



Michigan—Rural Russets
Green Mountains

Cool wet weather delayed planting, however, conditions during late spring and early summer were satisfactory for even stands, thrifty growth of vines, and heavy set. Acreage entered for certification was slightly increased and efficient roguing held rejections to a minimum. Prospects for better than average yields were good until early September when freezing temperatures curtailed production. Bin inspections indicate medium-sized, typey seed.

Dougherty Seed Growers

WILLIAMSPORT PENNA.

THE GUIDE POST

Published monthly by the Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers,' Inc.

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Annual membership fee is $1.00 This includes the GUIDE POST.

Single Copies—25 cents

All communications should be addressed to C. F. H. Wuesthoff, Executive Secretary, Williamsport, Pennsylvania.

[1]

CAUTION GROWERS!

Laxness on the part of a few packers of Blue Label pecks and Blue Label 50's in regard to weight of potatoes placed in the bags has proven most expensive. The management wishes to advise all packers to **check** and **recheck** their **scales.** The place to be sure is on the farm and not at the store or the warehouse. Incidentally double check on your grading Blue Label potatoes—The grade isn't hard to meet but must be met. Laxness is expensive business.

FIGHT ON COOPERATIVES

"Anti's" Are Taking Advantage of Washington's Confusion

WHEREAS, a nationwide fight is developing against continuing federal income tax exemption for agricultural cooperatives, promoted and financed by middlemen groups through an organization known as the Central Coordi-Group, Inc., with headquarters in Chicago; and

WHEREAS, a similar fight is developing against Farm Credit Administration that is being promoted and financed by the American Bankers Association which, if successful, would take away the capital provided by the government for loaning to farmers through Production Credit Associations, thus injuring agriculture and agricultural cooperatives; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that members of cooperatives everywhere be urged to write frequent letters to their senators and representatives in congress, beginning at once, urging that they support continued federal income tax exemption for cooperatives **that qualify** and urging their opposition to any measure advanced by bankers which would restrict in any way the ability of Production Credit Corporations to meet the demand for loans for farm production purposes.

* * *

This is a threat on the part of a group of "Anti-Cooperation" concerns which should be discouraged at the outset and that is **NOW!**

THE GUIDE POST, MARCH 1943, RECOGNIZES IMPORTANCE OF POTASH FERTILIZATION ON POTATOES

"There can be no doubt that an increase in potash up to at least 12% has made for a better culinary quality potato in several varieties, particularly the Rural. This was not determined in a test tube but in a larger way through the kitchens of the Hershey Industrial School. On the basis of these studies and taking everything into consideration, 1,000 lbs. per acre, depending on the soil fertility level, of a 4-12-12 analysis is the nearest to the ideal fertilizer."

ORDER BAGS NOW

Our paper bag manufacturers are pleading with us to advise growers to give them a little more time on bag shipment. We have the bags—they say—but transportation is becoming more and more difficult. Railroad service is slow, trucking services are uncertain and express is most too expensive. The management urges you to ascertain your needs early and order at once before you are **caught short again.**

ANNUAL MEETING TO BE HELD HARRISBURG, JANUARY 19-20

Potato growers annual meeting January 19th and 20th promises to be a most interesting and instructive two day session. Briefly we are planning a half day each on Machinery, Production, Land Utilization, Business, Marketing and Publicity problems. Each session will be in the form of a Discussion Conference when experts and growers will have an opportunity to air their views and finally come to worthwhile conclusions. Junior growers and Senior growers, educators, food distributors, machinery manufacturers and dealers will have every possible opportunity to get together. A Cooperative-Business good fellowship Dinner followed with addresses by H. E. Babcock founder of the G. L. F., Miles Horst, Pennsylvania's Secretary of Agriculture and Dr. Paul Nystrom formerly of Columbia University will conclude the two full days. Detailed programs will be printed in the next issue of the Guide Post.

FARMERS TO AVERT INFLATION

National Grange Leader Opposes Subsidies and Excessive Prices

Albert S. Goss, master of the National Grange, called upon farmers today to stand fast not only against government food subsidies but against excessive farm prices as well, because both would lead the nation to economic suicide.

Striking at food and tax policies of the Roosevelt administration and at wage demands of some groups of organized labor, the farm leader declared civilians must accept some cuts in living standards during the war or face disastrous inflation.

In a speech prepared for the opening session of the 77th annual convention of the grange, Goss said farmers must "accept" and seek either rationing or price ceilings which will prevent farm prices from rising too high."

"We must be content," he said, "with margins very little above cost, for we too must accept cuts in our accustomed standards if inflation is to be licked."

A NEW DEFINITION FOR SUBSIDY

The New York Sun recently printed a short editorial describing subsidy as a "disguised price increase with delayed impact" and called the plan similar to the famous German detaching movements "a mere disguise for retreat." On this point the editorial said:

"A subsidy is a disguised price increase with delayed impact. A question asked on the floor of the House some time ago comes to mind. A member asked why a man in the armed forces fighting at relatively low pay should be asked to pay in post-war taxes part of the grocery bill of an industrial worker employed at higher wages than he has ever received before. This may be an oversimplification of the subsidy problem, but it is obvious to the committee majority that subsidies are not the equivalent of price control. In that field of strategy they are the equivalent of the famous German detaching movements: a mere disguise for retreat."

HOUSE ACTS TO PROHIBIT FOOD SUBSIDIES

The House of Representatives recessed on Monday because of the death of two members, Henry B. Steagall, of Alabama and J. William Ditter, of Pennsylvania, but the fight to ban consumer price subsidies was resumed Tuesday. After a long day of bitter debate, the Commodity Credit Corporation which would end food subsidies after December 31, was voted by the House 278 to 117.

Tied with the subsidy ban sent to the Senate was legislation extending the life of the Commodity Credit Corporation and a specific provision that subsidy payments on cottonseed, soybean, and peanut oils and meals might be continued. The vote Tuesday gave to Congress the first victory in round two of the subsidy battle which has existed between the Administration and both Houses for almost a year. The President won the first round last June when

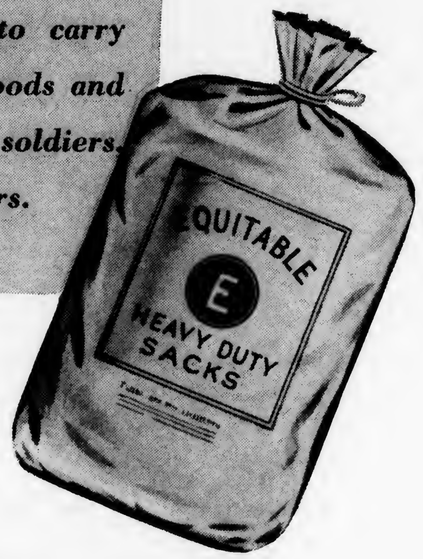
Continued on page 22

INDUCTION NOTICE

For immediate action on the war and civilian front!

Equitable Heavy-Duty Kraft Sacks

report for duty prepared to carry through all conditions the foods and chemicals required by our soldiers, allies and home front workers.



We've answered the call with the best sacks we've ever produced... designed especially for

POTATOES . . . FERTILIZERS
SOYBEAN PRODUCTS, etc.

EQUITABLE PAPER BAG Co.

Northern Plant: 4700 31st Place, Long Island City

Southern Plant & Paper Mills: Orange, Texas

WAREHOUSES IN:
Allentown, Pa., Atlanta, Ga., Boston, Mass., Buffalo, N. Y., Chicago, Ill , Cincinnati, Ohio, Columbus, Ohio, Detroit, Mich., Indianapolis, Ind., Jacksonville, Fla., Kansas City, Mo., Los Angeles, Cal., Memphis, Tenn., Pittsburgh, Pa., Rochester, N. Y., St. Louis, Miss., St. Paul, Minn., Washington, D C., Youngstown, Ohio.

Hausman's Receive Government V Award



The Hausmans of Schnecksville
Lehigh County

Lehigh county's typical farm family—Mr. and Mrs. George Hausman and Mr. and Mrs. Alton Hausman of Schnecksville, R. No. 1—was "very much surprised and quite proud" to learn yesterday that it had been chosen to represent the rest of the county's farm population at Indiantown Gap when the U. S. Department of Agriculture presents its "V" award for agricultural production.

Along with representatives of 66 other Pennsylvania counties, the Hausman's will receive the Government's tribute to the State's farmers and will be given an opportunity to spend a day as guests of the Army, getting first hand information as to the vast stores of food necessary to keep our army fighting.

The Hausman father-son combination was chosen to receive the county's award because of their production record during the past year.

Their crops were greatly increased, some as much as 50 per cent. Additional dairy cattle and hogs were purchased during last year and the amount of dairy products sent to market was doubled.

It took a lot of hard work to achieve the goal of increased production. Labor was as scarce as a new set of tires and the burden of cultivating the 103 acres on the Schnecksville R. No. 1 farm and an additional 40 acres just outside of Allentown was shouldered by the two men without outside help.

In order to get their multitude of jobs completed, the Hausmans arose long before sunrise and seldom went to sleep before 10 o'clock in the evening. They stopped work only long enough to get a bite to eat.

But with it all, the younger Hausman found time to serve four hours a week as an air observer at the Schnecksville post.

Mr. and Mrs. George Hausman have been living on the same farm for the last 28 years. Mr. Hausman, who is 53 years old, gave up a job as clerk in a general store at Schnecksville and bought the farm from his wife's father. He's been farming since then.

Alton is the Hausman's younger son. Until the need for increased agricultural production became evident, he worked at Mack Mfg. Corp. He returned to the farm last year and has been an invaluable help to his father. "It's my first love, anyway," he said.

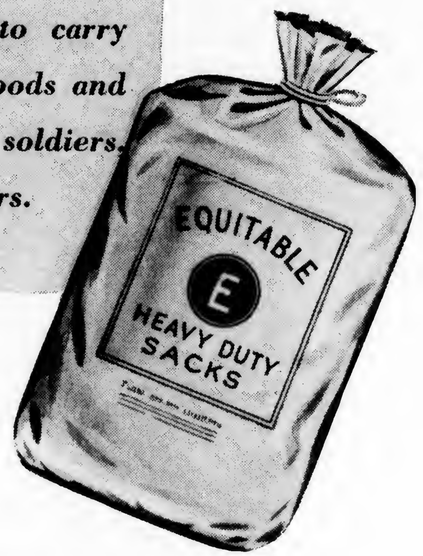
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INDUCTION NOTICE

For immediate action on the war and civilian front!

Equitable Heavy-Duty Kraft Sacks

report for duty prepared to carry through all conditions the foods and chemicals required by our soldiers, allies and home front workers.



We've answered the call with the best sacks we've ever produced... designed especially for

POTATOES . . . FERTILIZERS
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EQUITABLE PAPER BAG Co.

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WAREHOUSES IN:
Allentown, Pa., Atlanta, Ga., Boston, Mass., Buffalo, N. Y., Chicago, Ill , Cincinnati, Ohio, Columbus, Ohio, Detroit, Mich., Indianapolis, Ind., Jacksonville, Fla., Kansas City, Mo., Los Angeles, Cal., Memphis, Tenn., Pittsburgh, Pa., Rochester, N. Y., St. Louis, Miss., St. Paul, Minn., Washington, D C., Youngstown, Ohio.

Hausman's Receive Government V Award



The Hausmans of Schnecksville
Lehigh County

Lehigh county's typical farm family—Mr. and Mrs. George Hausman and Mr. and Mrs. Alton Hausman of Schnecksville, R. No. 1—was "very much surprised and quite proud" to learn yesterday that it had been chosen to represent the rest of the county's farm population at Indiantown Gap when the U. S. Department of Agriculture presents its "V" award for agricultural production.

Along with representatives of 66 other Pennsylvania counties, the Hausman's will receive the Government's tribute to the State's farmers and will be given an opportunity to spend a day as guests of the Army, getting first hand information as to the vast stores of food necessary to keep our army fighting.

The Hausman father-son combination was chosen to receive the county's award because of their production record during the past year.

Their crops were greatly increased, some as much as 50 per cent. Additional dairy cattle and hogs were purchased during last year and the amount of dairy products sent to market was doubled.

It took a lot of hard work to achieve the goal of increased production. Labor was as scarce as a new set of tires and the burden of cultivating the 103 acres on the Schnecksville R. No. 1 farm and an additional 40 acres just outside of Allentown was shouldered by the two men without outside help.

In order to get their multitude of jobs completed, the Hausmans arose long before sunrise and seldom went to sleep before 10 o'clock in the evening. They stopped work only long enough to get a bite to eat.

But with it all, the younger Hausman found time to serve four hours a week as an air observer at the Schnecksville post.

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INTENTIONAL SECOND EXPOSURE

THE JUNIOR-GUIDE POST

Pennsylvania Junior Cooperative Potato Growers Assn.

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Calvin M. Will, Somerset..V.-President
Daniel W. Keener, Neffs.....Secretary
Harold Henninger, Allentown
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Annual Membership—$1.00 which includes 12 issues of The GUIDE POST.
Single Copies—25c.

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Latin American Gifts
"The Potato"

The early history of the travels of the potato from its original home to practically all cultivable regions of the earth is involved in so vast a number of conflicting legends that the serious investigator of the subject is much tempted to seek refuge in the dictum of Mark Twain—"It ain't so much what you don't know that matters, as knowing so much that ain't so."

In the United States and other English-speaking countries the Colanum tuberisum is commonly called the "Irish potato," or simply the "potato." The plant is, however, only a potato by analogy and Irish by adoption. According to botanists, the true potato is the Ipomoea batatas, the plant now called the "sweet potato." It belongs to the Morning Glory family, whereas the Irish potato is a Nightshade. So far as the logic of liology and etymology are concerned, the word "potato" is no more applicable to the plant than the "dog" in prairie-dog or the "pig" in guinea-pig.

There have been several schools of opinion concerning the locality where the potato originally grew in a wild state. Probably, however, the potato is a native of the Peru, Ecuador, Bolivia, Chile region of South America. The late W. E. Safford reported the finding of mummies and of dried potatoes and funeral vases of terra cotta in the form of conventionalized potatoes in a succession of cemeteries along the arid Pacific coast of Peru and North Chile. Possibly it was farther south, in Chiloe, that the potato became acclimated to the wet, lowland climate which later made it a success in Ireland.

This South American gift to the world's food supply reached the United States by way of the Old World rather than directly. And it was in the Old World that it became "Irish."

There are many stories concerning the introduction of the potato into the countries of Europe, but the lack of exact and extensive historical records makes extremely difficult the task of segregating probable fact from purest fiction.

A focal point for many of the legends concerning the introduction of the potato is the heroic statue of Sir Francis Drake on the principal street and market place of Offenburg in Baden, Germany. The right hand of the figure representing Drake clutches a potato plant with tubers, and a decorative frieze at the base of the statue consists of carvings representing potatoes. The inscriptions represent Drake as the disseminator of the potato in Europe. His actual connections with the plant remain obscure.

But regardless of who first brought the potato to European and other shores foreign to its mysterious native Andean habitat, it is evident that the necessities of famine and war, rather than royal decrees or the antics of its advertisers, make the potato the staple food of the common people.

Teacher (pointing to deer at the zoo): "Johnny, what is that?"

Johnny: "I don't know."

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SOMETHING A-PEELING about THIS



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EMERGENCY FARM LABOR OFFICE

Completes Successful Season

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Early in the summer it was recognized that there would be difficulty in securing any appreciable number of year-round workers, the primary object was to take care of emergency needs such as work during the summer months and for the season's production, particularly fruit and vegetable harvesting and potato picking.

The record as compiled by the Emergency Farm Labor Office shows sixteen (16) year round farm workers placed, 213 doing farm work throughout the summer months and 975 recruited for seasonal work. The total number of placements during the highest week when the greatest number of workers was sent out was 487. Approximately nine hundred fifty were used during the crop season. Four hundred seventy-one farmers made requests to the Farm Labor Office for help at various times and in most cases, the office was able to supply the seasonal and summer help that was needed.

There were periods during the season of fruit harvesting and tomato harvest that surplus help was available in Cambria County and from the workers registered in our own county, a total of eighty-four (84) was sent to other counties to help with emergency harvesting of fruits and vegetables.

Continued on page 21

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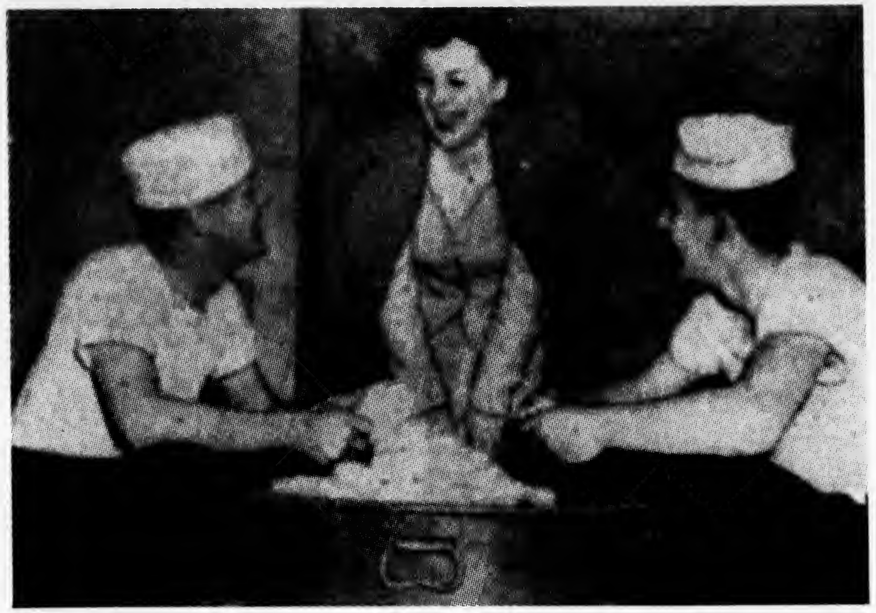
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Continued on page 21

INTENTIONAL SECOND EXPOSURE

The SHIPPER *has this to say:*

"It's never too late to learn. For years I thought I had to pack hundred pound burlaps. Mostly old and dusty burlap, too. Now I'm wise to the fact that I can pack as many Blue Label potatoes in 50 lb. Taggart Paper Sacks as I did in burlap. With me getting older and most of the grown men away, the lighter weight fits in. Works out fine, too, with the young boys helping in the emergency.

And do you know, I take a lot of pride in shipping out these clean, good looking Taggart Sacks. They're made of tough kraft paper, their cost is right in line . . . and they are not hard to get."



Distributors and housewives also prefer Taggart Paper Sacks. Watch for our next ad.

TAGGART'S

Potato Shipping Sacks

MULTIPLY PROTECTION • MULTIPLY SALEABILITY

TAGGART CORP., 230 Park Avenue, New York 17, N. Y.

Offices also at: Birmingham, Ala. Denver, Colo. Los Angeles, Calif. New Orleans, La. Seattle, Wash. Baltimore, Md. Dallas, Texas Franklin, Va. Nazareth, Pa. San Francisco, Calif. Toledo, Ohio



Emergency Labor on Frank Westrick, Sr., farm at Patton, Cambria County. Most of these junior helpers came from the Patton Schools while the balance hail from the school at Revloc. The boys were recruited by James A. Farabough, Emergency Farm Labor Assistant of Cambria County, (extreme right) with Frank Westrick, pioneer commercial potato grower and a recognized producer of potato and apples throughout the south central section. Raymond Westrick, able son of Frank, Sr., appears in left center of this picture. Frank, Jr., is seen on the tractor.

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Continued from page 19

Mr. J. A. Farabaugh of Bradley Junction, was selected by the Emergency Farm Labor Committee to supervise the placement work. The office was opened on June 9th and continued to November 1st. Much credit for the successful operation of the Farm Labor Placement Program should go to Mr. Farabaugh and to his office secretary, Mrs. Elizabeth McLain who did excellent work in handling the office end of the program. Both Mr. Farabaugh and Mrs. McLain have had excellent cooperation from all school authorities in the County. The school principals were very helpful in the enrollment of boys and girls from their respective schools and County Superintendent Stull served as a member of the Emergency Farm Labor Committee and assisted in setting up the plan which made it possible for contacts to be made with the individual schools in providing emergency farm help.

A recent survey made by the County Agricultural Agent and Assistant County Agent, indicates that there were practically no crops lost as a result of inability to get harvest help.

Be Thankful and start every day with the feeling that it is the best day you have ever lived—and the chances are that it will be.

ALBERT C. ROEMHILD

Commission Merchant

Phone, Lombard 1000 **122 Dock St., Philadelphia**

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INTENTIONAL SECOND EXPOSURE

HOUSE ACTS TO PROHIBIT FOOD SUBSIDIES

Continued from page 15

his veto of similar legislation was upheld.

The final vote on the bill was generally predicted, but the amendment introduced by Representative Monromey (Democrat) of Oklahoma to extend the subsidy through next September, provided the Little Steel formula for wage adjustments was not broken in the meantime, showed a surprising amount of strength in Tuesday's voting. The Monromey amendment was defeated by 154 to 120, but a similar amendment is expected to be introduced when the Commodity Credit Corporation Bill reaches the floor of the Senate. Representative Monromey's proposal would have limited subsidy funds to 750 million dollars for the period and stopped them automatically if wages broke through the Little Steel pattern.

NEW YORK TIMES EDITORIAL

"Flat subsidies, are wholly different in principle and effect from differential subsidies. Here there is no distinction between one producer and another or between what is paid for a producer's usual output and what is paid for any excess above that. Each producer or processor is paid a flat subsidy for each unit produced. So far as the producer is concerned, the effect (apart from administrative complexities or discriminations or the larger issue of Government control) is the same as an equivalent increase in the market price would be. The main financial difference here is not to the producer but to the consumer. The consumer of butter, for example, because of the flat Government subsidy, can buy butter 5 cents a pound cheaper than otherwise. On the other hand, the **Government deficit is increased,** the amount of excess purchasing power left in the hands of consumers is increased and the public as a whole achieves no real saving because it must ultimately pay its own subsidy out of the proceeds of taxation.

"Flat subsidies, in brief, are a dangerous device. They are themselves inflationary. Unless they are kept under the firmest possible restrictions they can easily get out of hand. This does not mean that they should in no case be resorted to.

WHEN YOU WANT THE SAFEST CARE FOR YOUR POTATOES—PACK THEM IN

"HAMMOND BETTERBAGS"

Because They Are

ATTRACTIVE-ECONOMICAL-CONVENIENT
DURABLE-STRONG

HAMMOND Betterbags WELLSBURG, W.VA.

HAMMOND BAG & PAPER CO.
WELLSBURG, W. VA.

Potatoes and Potash

In view of current efforts to make the wisest possible use of present supplies of potash and other plant-food materials in promoting our wartime agricultural program, it is not only important to know how much potash will be available as compared to the past few years, but how best to use it. It is conservatively estimated that with the American production of potash salts at an all-time high, the actual supply of potash for agricultural use will not be much less than the average of the last two years, although about 10% less than that of last year. While this is not sufficient for greatest yields, it is not short enough to warrant any material changes in established plant-food ratios.

Potatoes are greedy feeders on potash. They consume more of this particular plant food than nitrogen and phosphate combined. To get the best results from the high-potash fertilizer which you purchase for your potatoes next year, broadcast before plowing or apply with a special fertilizer attachment to the plow at least one half of the total application. The remainder should be applied in the usual way in bands at planting time. Outstanding results have been obtained from this method in numerous experimental demonstrations during 1942 and 1943, the increases ranging from 30—70 bushels per acre.

Write us for additional information and free literature on how to fertilize your crops.

More Potash means More Profit

American Potash Institute
INCORPORATED

1155 16th ST., N. W. WASHINGTON, D. C.

BRANCH MANAGER BROADCASTS OVER WCAU, PHILADELPHIA

ANNOUNCER:

Mr. P. D. Frantz, a director of the Pennsylvania Potato Growers' Association, and a past President of that organization, is with us today. Mr. Frantz will speak on the problems of the potato industry, with special emphasis on the supply situation and its effect on the consumer.

MR. FRANTZ:

I wish to thank station WCAU for this opportunity to speak to the producers and consumers about this important potato supply for the next few months.

I am a potato grower, myself, and have been for many years. My experience in this line of work has given me a vast amount of knowledge of the potato growers problems, what he has to do until he has produced a good grade of potatoes for the tables of our American consumers.

I get in contact with thousands of potato growers and with food distributors and consumers over the entire state of Pennsylvania. In these contacts, I find that they have many problems on their hands and the most critical problem of all is labor.

ANNOUNCER:

Just what is the situation at present, and how are you meeting these problems?

Mr. FRANTZ:

Labor has been siphoned from agriculture to industry in our war effort and also into the armed forces. The labor condition on potato farms is very critical. There is no manpower labor available at any price to do the technical work such as tractor and truck operations, tillage tools, cultivation and spraying operations, the harvesting and storing of potatoes, and grading for the markets. Most of this work was curtailed during the last season and was stretched out for a much longer period than was usually the case. Some of this work was taken over by farm women and children.

Another big problem of the potato grower is a shortage of farm equipment. In many instances, the grower has been handicapped by the freezing and rationing of equipment and supplies. This situation has eased up and farmers are now able to get more of the necessary repairs to keep their equipment in operation.

In spite of all these handicaps, the farmers have produced a heavy yield of

Continued on page 26

SPRAY and DUST

with

MILLARD MODERN LIMES

Rotary Kiln Products

Crop Protection - Service - Reasonable Cost

H. E. MILLARD

Phone 7-3231 **Annville, Pa.**

WHY FARMERS INVEST IN WAR BONDS

Some Splendid Reasons

Victory probably means as much or more to the farmer and his family than to any other group. The farm family, like any other, finances its living. In addition, it must also finance its business. The future of the American farmer, for the next two decades at least, depends on his savings from today's higher incomes, most of which is actually due to the war. The billions of dollars invested in war bonds to help pay for war will be needed by these same farmers when the war is over. Following are four major and minor reasons why farm people are saving and investing in war bonds, other than for patriotic reasons and to help furnish war financing funds and keep down inflationary prices:

A Must for Future Reserves

First, saving in this unnatural period of high returns and scarce replacements and replenishments is a "must" in sound farm management.

The farm "factory," including the land itself, tractors, trucks, plows and other machinery, the family car, the farm house and all its furnishings, barn, granary and other buildings — all are "wearing and tearing" under the strain of the war. Farms and their equipment and buildings are going through their toughest period in history, most of them without proper repairs and replacements to keep them in tip-top shape.

Today's record farm incomes, to most farmers, may be misleading. Much of the higher returns from farm production is not real income. In peace times, much of the farm receipts and especially increased returns of normally good years, would be utilized to repair or replace farm equipment, farm buildings, stoves, refrigerators, radios, furniture and other home appliances.

In order to insure that they will be able to make these repairs and replacements when goods again become available, forward looking farm people are figuring annual wear and tear on all their land, equipment, buildings and are investing today's returns in war bonds as "depreciation reserves."

Now is also the time to get debts in shape. This doesn't mean wiping out long-term mortgages which are being met easily. But, it does mean paying up delinquencies and all debts that should have been paid some time ago. However, if all income is applied on debts, it may be necessary for the farmer to borrow again later to meet financial obligations at a time when it is difficult to borrow and when rates may be higher.

Farm Hazards

The second reason for farm people saving now is to "insure" themselves against losses resulting from farm hazards.

Money saved from today's high crop and livestock returns, which are largely from wartime influence, will come in handy in later years when there may be crop and livestock failures due to floods, droughts, insect pests, diseases and other hazards. In addition, saving from today's higher income will provide a reserve against the time when prices are lower and when land values may drop drastically. Saving now instead of buying high-priced land will help prevent much land foreclosures as occurred in the early 1930's among farmers who paid too much for land during, and shortly after, the last war. Land inflation during and immediately following the last war left one of the greatest hazards in the path of millions of Americans. Speculation in farm land—more especially during periods of favorable farm incomes—is harmful to agriculture and to the nation. Competitive bidding for farm real estate has again started what may become a dangerous land inflation. The wise farmer will not run the hazardous risk of losing all if a severe depression should follow by investing in war bonds instead of bidding for high-priced land with his wartime surplus cash.

For Wants and Needs

The third reason for farm saving today is for wants and needs of the farm family.

For years, thousands of farm families had been wanting a farm of their own, a car, a new or better home, landscaping for their home, a new refrigerator, a modern bathroom and other items which they couldn't afford before. Now that their incomes are sufficient to buy these, most of the items are not available because of war needs. In modern America

these are not considered luxuries; they are essential to higher standards in farm living. Wartime saving when prices are high for peacetime spending when prices will be lower, undoubtedly, will make for satisfaction on the farm and aid peacetime industry.

This is the time to save for such things when they can again be bought. Money saved today will also help give the children a better education, and provide a start for the fighting men when they return home.

For Security and Independence

Security and independence constitute the fourth reason for saving today.

Nothing is better for the morale of farm people than financial security. Savings made today will enable them to provide this financial security. They will be able to buy more life insurance, have more recreation and travel in later years, and their savings will enable them to have a good income or make additional sound business investments.

Patriotism and self-interest combine to make an investment in war bonds the best possible form of financial reserve for farm people. —M.J.G.

MANAGER BROADCASTS

Continued from page 24

potatoes, taking the country as a whole, but in areas of Pennsylvania, there was a curtailment of the potato crop due to lack of moisture and very high temperatures during the months of July, August, and September, especially in the eastern part of the state. The crop of potatoes in this area is just about 50% of normal. However, there are potatoes available from other sources and from the 50% of a normal production of Pennsylvania so that no housewife need fear that will not be potatoes on hand all during the winter until the new southern crop comes on the market.

The potatoes are brought from the fields and stored in frost-proof storages and when the farmers are called upon to pack potatoes for the market, they will be graded and packed in consumer packages and shipped to distributors who, with their modern way of merchandising, will have them ready for the consumer to pick them up as they are needed.

ANNOUNCER:

In other words, Mr. Frantz, it appears that the consumer is assured of a steady supply of potatoes now, but what about the future? Will you tell us what we may expect?

MR. FRANTZ:

Just what the future holds in store for the farmers, or for the consumers for that matter, we cannot predict. We do know this however: The cost of labor, and the cost of keeping our farm implements in operating condition has increased by at least 75 per cent. The cost of materials in growing the crop, such as fertilizer, seed, and spray materials has also been increased by at least 20 per cent over the previous year.

I am mentioning this because the potato industry has nothing to conceal. We believe that we have a good wholesome food, a food that can be prepared in at least 77 different ways. The potato is a food that is not adulterated to make it appear to be something that is not real. The potato growers still believe that 100 pounds of potatoes will give the maximum in wholesome food and energy for the price involved than most anything else.

The potato growers program in Pennsylvania is to have a steady supply of potatoes moving direct from the nearest farm to your nearest food distribution. That saves transportation and transportation costs do not fill empty stomachs.

The Pennsylvania potato growers have streamlined their marketing program by packing in paper and distributing to all food distribution centers for your convenience. By packing in paper, dust and dirt is avoided all through the channels of trade down to the consumer's kitchen.

However, the consumer should use reasonable judgment in taking proper care of their potato supplies. Potatoes will spoil very quickly when coming in contact with salt or chemicals. Sunlight turns them green in several hours and low temperatures will freeze them while too high a temperature will spoil their food value.

We believe that our marketing program is a solution to your potato problems. We want you, the consumer, to be satisfied with our product, and we will not let you down.

Greater Yields–More Profit

. . . with FARQUHAR IRON AGE



Potato growers all over the country using Farquhar "Iron Age" Potato Planters proclaim them to be "tops", particularly in the present day shortage of manpower, and the need for maximum yields to overcome food shortages.

Farquhar builds two types of "Iron Age" Potato Planter, (1) the Assisted Feed and, (2) the Automatic Planter.

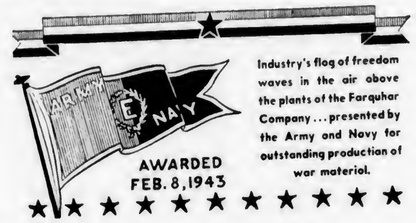
The Automatic Planter

Select an "Iron Age" Automatic Planter if you wish to plant the greatest number of acres per day, and wish to eliminate the expense of an extra man on the back of the machine, and if you are satisfied with an occasional double or miss.

The Assisted Feed Planter

Select an "Iron Age" Assisted Feed Planter if you want absolutely 100 % stand, and have a reliable man on the back of the machine to make corrections. If you desire maximum disease control and want the greatest possible spacing accuracy, or if you wish to plant seed potatoes by the tuber unit method.

Both types of "Iron Age" Planters are built in one row, two row, three row, and four row models and can be converted to pea, bean and corn planters . . . a size and type to meet the needs of every grower.



Industry's flag of freedom waves in the air above the plants of the Farquhar Company . . . presented by the Army and Navy for outstanding production of war material.

Plant and Spray the IRON AGE Way



A. B. FARQUHAR CO., Limited, YORK, PA.

For

YOU...

Later

WAR BONDS

You Buy Today Will Help Pay For:

★ FARM EQUIPMENT
★ HOME EQUIPMENT
★ A FARM
★ A NEW CAR
★ AN EDUCATION for CHILDREN
★ HOSPITAL BILLS

And Provide A Reserve For:

★ LEAN YEARS
★ OLD AGE

Build Reserves in War Bonds
For Reverses and Replacements

VISION OF PENNSYLVANIA GROWERS

THE GUIDE POST

VOLUME XX NUMBER 12

A Happy, Prosperous New Year To All

★

AGRICULTURAL LIBRARY
THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE COLLEGE

DECEMBER — 1943

Published by the

PENNSYLVANIA COOPERATIVE
POTATO GROWERS ASSOCIATION

INCORPORATED

The DISTRIBUTOR *has this to say:*

"I sure am glad those shippers are doing what we wanted them to do a long time ago . . . pack Blue Label potatoes in 50 lb. Taggart Paper Sacks. My men here and the store people really like the clean kraft paper sack and the convenient size. The store people always holler now if we send 100 lb. burlap or cotton. Say they make too much dirt in the stores . . . and the girl clerks just can't handle them."



Shippers and housewives also prefer Taggart Paper Sacks. Watch for our next ad.

TAGGART'S

Potato Shipping Sacks

MULTIPLY PROTECTION • MULTIPLY SALEABILITY

TAGGART CORP., 230 Park Avenue, New York 17, N. Y.

Offices also at: Birmingham, Ala. Boston, Mass. Denver, Colo. Los Angeles, Calif. New Orleans, La. Seattle, Wash. Kansas City, Mo. Baltimore, Md. Dallas, Texas Franklin, Va. Nazareth, Pa. San Francisco, Calif. Toledo, Ohio

THE GUIDE POST

published by

The Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers Association, Inc. Williamsport

Volume XX **December, 1943** **Number 12**



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WHEN GOOD GROWERS GET TOGETHER

By ARNOLD NICHOLSON

Reprinted from December *Country Gentleman*

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INTENTIONAL SECOND EXPOSURE

pens in hand. The mailman is still stacking letters on the Nixon desk.

Just to save him answering more mail it should be said right now that the new potato—known, for want of a better name, as HU 23 ME—is only beginning its commercial career. All available seed will go back into the fields of the Growers' Association, or those of its members, for increase in 1944. It is not guaranteed to produce 900 bushels to the acre, though one less-than-an-acre test row did yield well above that figure. Nor does anyone yet know how widely adapted it may be outside Pennsylvania. where it is more highly prized for its apparent resistance to ring rot, its shallow eyes, white skin and habit of producing 98 per cent U. S. No. 1 size tubers than for the possibility of superyields.

HU 23 ME happens to be the most promising seedling to date in a unique farmer-sponsored potato-breeding program. And that search for varieties is but one link in a chain of events that demonstrates what can be done when good growers get together.

A generation ago Pennsylvania potatoes, with few exceptions, were disease-ridden, ungraded spuds that housewives in Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and other big cities bought only because the price was low. The crop always has been large enough to put Pennsylvania in the first six producing states—but never big enough to meet the home demand. And on the eve of the first World War, what with mosaic, leaf roll and blight, it looked as if potato growing was destined to become the mark of a poor farmer.

Then twenty-six growers from different parts of the state—of whom not more than three had ever met before—got together to form an educational and social organization. They got together at the suggestion of an energetic young extension pathologist, newly installed at The Pennsylvania State College to investigate, among other things, potato diseases. His name was E. L. Nixon.

That was in 1916. Three years later, at a meeting that marked the beginning of commercial potato production in Pennsylvania, growers from thirty-six counties assembled on one of the members' farms. They had Doctor Nixon's enthusiasm and knowledge to crystallize their associated hopes and ambitions into a program for producing more and better potatoes, and through subsequent years—at field days, business meetings and on tours of most of the potato-growing regions of this continent—he has remained in their midst to generate ideas and action.

Today the Pennsylvania Co-operative Potato Growers' Association has more than 2000 members, who represent 80 per cent of the commercial producers in the state. There are several 500-acre growers, where in 1916 sixty acres planted by one man was tops. Association members average yields of 254 bushels to the acre, while the state average is only 125. In soil-building practices, and in orderly, profitable marketing, their accomplishments are perhaps greatest of all.

You get one picture of what the Association means up on the roof of the Allegheny plateau—on the broad flat mountaintops of Northern Pennsylvania that have become potato fields in recent years. One of the highest of them all, 2424 feet above sea level, is Denton Hill, location of the 271-acre test area owned by the Association and known as Camp Potato. The other side of the Association picture you encounter in almost any grocery store or supermarket in the state, where you find 15 and 50 pound paper bags of carefully graded potatoes, selling at top prices because they bear the name of the Association; and returning more to the growers because they got to that store with a minimum of transportation and likely no brokerage at all.

In the beginning the Pennsylvania potato men concentrated on production alone—soil fertility, disease-free seed, spray schedules and the design and most economical use of implements to do the job. They succeeded so well that they have had to spend $3000 for the medals that are worn by 2000 farmers who have grown 400 or more bushels to the acre. Seven years ago, following a skirmish with the legislature that resulted in passage of a grade-labeling law, they launched a marketing campaign. Marketing today is the Association's most important service to members.

C. F. H. Wuesthoff, general manager of the Association, works from an office in Williamsport, which is central to the northern mountain potato-growing region of Pennsylvania. There are branch offices and assistants in Allentown, in the eastern part of the state, and in Butler, for the west. These three employees of the growers conduct one of the most unusual and successful direct farm-to-market operations in the nation.

It was founded on another idea from Doctor Nixon, who freely admits that he is "a visionary" when it comes to farm affairs. "Visions are great stuff," he says, "when you make them come true. Which means you can't sit back and dream, you have to act."

The potato-marketing dream that is now reality was simply to eliminate the handling and commissions that cut into farmers' receipts and likewise raised the price to consumers. And, as any farmer who has tried it knows, you can't succeed at that game without volume, means for orderly marketing, and consumer preference for your merchandise.

The Pennsylvania Co-operative Potato Growers' Association had the volume, enough farm storage space so the crop needn't be thrown on the market all at once, and potatoes second to none in quality. So Doctor Nixon, seeking volume buyers, went to the food chains and proposed a deal whereby the Association would deliver graded and labeled spuds right to individual store doors, on time, in the quantity specified, and at a price determined *in advance*. In return the stores would pay cash, within ten days, to the grower who delivered.

That's just the way it works, not alone with the food chains but with other buyers as well. Over 75 per cent of the Association's crop goes to the chains. Once a week, on Fridays, the manager and his assistants meet with the food buyers and the price for seven days, determined by open market conditions, is agreed upon. All orders clear through the Association offices, where the farmer or farmers to fill them are designated and advised of the agreed-upon price. They, in turn, deliver direct and are paid direct. Instead of shipping a carload of potatoes to a central point, to be broken up and part of it perhaps paying freight all the way back to stores in the vicinity of the farm, there is but one short haul.

The program, in many ways, centers about the distinctively marked paper bags in which the crop is packed. The Keystone emblem has all but captured the market in Eastern Pennsylvania. No bag can go to market without careful grading. The Association has qualified 180 inspectors, and every year holds a number of schools for them.

Bags Pay the Bills

The bags likewise finance the Association, aside from a dollar-a-year membership fee. Farmers can order bags only through one of the Association offices, and the price per bag is the same whether the order be for 250 or 10,000 bags. Orders are relayed by the Association to the bag manufacturers—there are three—and they ship direct to the farmer. He is billed at the same time and remits direct to the manufacturer. At the end of the year the bag manufacturer totals the print order, figures the quantity discount and sends a check to the Association for the difference between that and the total of the amounts he received from each member.

The price the farmer pays, even in the case of two or three of the largest growers, is less than it would cost him to have bags printed to order. But when quantities run into the hundreds of thousands and the millions, as they do, the rebate to the Association is substantial. Manager Wuesthoff figures that the revenue from this source is equivalent to a cent for every bushel Association members pack.

The funds are ample to staff the three offices—where, it's worth noting, there's a minimum of bookkeeping because no funds, either from potato sales or bag purchases, are handled — to print the Association's monthly member magazine, and to maintain Camp Potato. The Camp, which is active from spring to late fall, employs a man and wife as caretaker and cook, at least two full-time summer field men, and is host for varying periods of time to groups of Future Farmer boys, who earn their board by learning the practical side of potato growing, and at the same time enjoy a summer in the mountains. The farmer directors of the Association like to have young people participate in Camp Potato affairs, which are climaxed every season by a mid-August field day and conference, a tour of the seedling fields and selection of a Potato Queen.

Growers Build a Camp

The camp buildings, which consist of a huge combined assembly hall, dining room and dormitory and an insulated storage house and machine shed, are monuments to co-operation. Five years ago the Association directors and Doctor Nixon got wind of an abandoned CCC camp ninety miles away. A trip to Washington resulted in the gift of the CCC buildings to the Association from the Government, provided they were promptly removed.

Early in June, 1938, 500 Pennsylvania potato growers, their hired hands and their trucks assembled. In two days they dismantled the nineteen buildings on the CCC site and trucked them to Camp

Continued on page twenty-three

EFFICIENT USE OF FERTILIZERS ON POTATO FARMS

By S. D. GRAY



Potato production throughout the United States has undergone drastic changes during the past two years and further changes are in prospect for 1944. The nation's commercial potato farms are rapidly approaching 100% production capacity, if measured by the number of acres utilized. Even greater capacity may be expected in 1944 if the acreage adapted to potatoes is utilized more intensively and adjusted to meet the tremendous wartime demand for this crop. There probably never before has been a time when it was more important to follow the most efficient methods of production utilizing to the fullest extent farm management practices which will result in maximum production with a minimum of labor. The importance of fertilizer in such a program is self-evident.

The suggested goal for potato production in 1944 is 3,519,000 acres for the country as a whole. This represents an increase over 1943 of approximately 2%. For Pennsylvania the goal suggested by the War Food Administration is 200,000 acres. While this demand comes at a time when there is a scarcity of labor, machinery, and other essentials, there is little doubt but that the resourceful, highly organized potato growers of the State will fight through to victory with their usual high record of performance.

In the achievement of the increased acreage and production goals that have been established, there will be need for clear thinking and planning. Those in authority have a big responsibility. To the layman the mere increase in acreage presents no problem. To the man of experience, however, it becomes a matter of great concern. He knows that the large commercial growers already have under cultivation about the maximum number of acres adapted to potatoes that their farms will permit. He knows that the small growers cannot greatly expand their acreage, even if well adapted, because of prevailing restrictions on machinery and equipment that would be needed. While undoubtedly much of the acreage increase will have to come from the larger group of small operators, the desired increase in production, which after all is the true goal, must come from increased yields per acre due to the use of better seed, better cultivation and spraying, and perhaps most important of all, better fertilization.

In considering the matter of fertilization from the standpoint of increase in production, let us look at the record. Twenty-five years ago efficient use of fertilizers on potatoes could not be fully realized because of lack of a suitable planter-distributor. The small acreage farmers opened the rows with a one-horse plow or other tool, applied the fertilizer by hand, dragged a chain or cultivator through the furrow to mix the fertilizer, dropped the potatoes by hand and covered with a plow or cultivator. The so-called commercial grower if he were progressive may have used the old Eureka two-row fertilizer distributor marker which marked out the rows and applied the fertilizer. He then followed with a horse drawn potato planter. In either case the seed piece was in such close contact with the fertilizer that injury was frequently serious. Under such conditions growers became indifferent to the use of fertilizer and this was reflected in low average yields as well as farm income during that period.

With the development of the combination planter-distributor, to which the late Fred H. Bateman of the Iron Age Equipment Company gave so much of his life, the use of commercial fertilizers for potatoes took on a new significance. The pioneering of Mr. Bateman in the perfection of the band method of applying fertilizer, not only made it possible to increase potato yields by more liberal use of fertilizer, but served to stimulate enormously the growth and expansion of the industry. Today almost every potato grower boasts of at least one modern potato planter and no longer does he harbor that oldtime fear of injury from fertilizer use. Applications of high analysis fertilizers in amounts varying from 1,000 to 2,500 per acre are not uncommon in many important potato growing areas.

When the band method of application was first developed, potato fertilizers seldom carried more than 16 units of plant food. One of the very popular mixtures at that time was a 4-8-5 and much smaller amounts per acre were applied than today. Little by little research work at the Agricultural Experiment Stations not only showed that larger amounts of fertilizer could be used with safety, but that potatoes definitely needed more potash than was ordinarily used. In most of the official recommendations of today, potato analyses carry from two to three times as much potash as nitrogen and usually the phosphorus content of the mixtures is intermediate between nitrogen and potash. In areas where potatoes are grown in a grain hay rotation it is generally believed that potato mixtures should have about equal amounts of phosphorus and potash, especially when the rate of application is on the average less than 1,000 pounds per acre.

As larger amounts of fertilizer per acre and higher potash ratios have been established by research, some difficulties have been encountered, even where the approved band application method has been employed. Occasionally on soils low in organic matter or in seasons of low rainfall during the early stages of growth, fertilizer injury has been quite frequently observed. Realizing that high yields depend upon abundant fertilizer in the right ratios, yet conscious of the fact that the full benefit from its use cannot be realized when injury is being sustained, scientists have been prompted to continue their research on methods of application. The band principle having made such contributions to this field in the beginning, the first thought was to modify it in such a way as to place a part of the fertilizer somewhat deeper in one band than in the other. Results of these approaches have been extremely encouraging and it is now possible when purchasing a planter to secure fertilizer attachments designed to place part of the fertilizer in a shallow band and part several inches deeper. Commercially the attachments are called Hi-Lo.

To all intents and purposes the Hi-Lo attachment for applying fertilizer is just about perfect. The "nigger in the woodpile," however, is the fact that it does not work too well in rocky or rooty soil. This should be definitely kept in mind at all times. To abridge this difficulty and at the same time avail ourselves of the obvious advantages of the Hi-Lo principle of fertilizer application, scientists have further modified their experimental plans. In this work fertilizer placement studies have been quite generally about as follows:

1. Ordinary equal depth bands two inches to each side and slightly below the level of the seed piece. See Fig. 1.



Figure 1.

2. Hi-Lo varying the proportions of the fertilizer in each band. See Fig. 2.
3. Drilling the fertilizer deep with grain drill.
4. Broadcasting varying amounts of the total fertilizer application before plowing with balance in bands at planting time.
5. Plow-soil (furrow) application of varying amounts of the total application by using the I.H.C. plow-

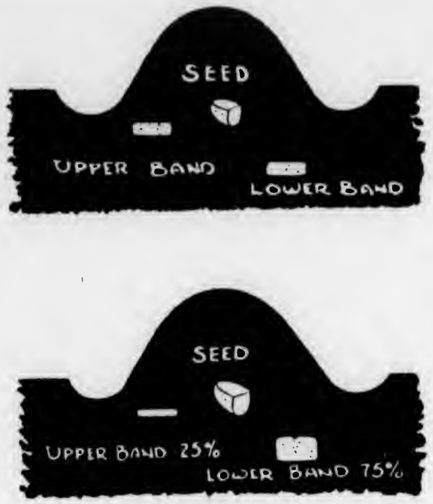


Figure 2.

under attachment with the balance in bands at planting time. (See Fig. 3, opposite page).

Results of these approaches have been of tremendous value and interest. Briefly it might be concluded that with ideal moisture conditions during the early growth period the equal depth band placement of fertilizer is entirely satisfactory. (Fig. 1.) However, since no one can anticipate or predict ideal moisture conditions, the modified Hi-Lo band placement method is more certain and should certainly be employed where soil conditions permit. (Fig. 2.) Because Hi-Lo does not work too satisfactorily where there are many stones, roots, or coarse debris as in old tufted sods, plowing under of from one-half to three-fourths of the total fertilizer with the balance in bands at planting time would seem to offer the best opportunity for increased yields under average conditions of soils and rainfall. (Fig. 3.) Broadcasting or drilling the fertilizer has not been found advantageous.

Of interest perhaps at this point would be a summary of four years of fertilizer demonstrations conducted by the writer in cooperation with the Pennsylvania Co-operative Potato Growers' Association for the period between 1937-1940 and published in the January 1941 issue of "The Guide Post." This work conducted on twelve typical potato farms, representative of the important potato growing sections of the State is presented in condensed form in the following table.

TABLE I

Average 4-Year Results for Pennsylvania Potatoes

Plot	Fertilizer*	Yield, Bu. per Acre	Bushels Increase Over Basic Treatment
1	5-10-10	247.80	
2	Basic treatment plus 150 lbs. 60% muriate	285.92	38.12
3	Basic treatment plus 300 lbs. 60% muriate	259.60	11.80
4	0-10-10**	273.29	25.49

* Basic treatment in amount to supply 200 lbs. total plant food.
** Sufficient to raise 1:2:2 to a 1:3:3 ratio.

In 1942 fertilizer tests were conducted at the National Farm School, Doylestown, Pennsylvania, and at the Philadelphia County Prison Farm near Torresdale, Pennsylvania. In the tests at Doylestown plots 1, 2, and 3, table II, had all fertilizer applied by the band method. On plot 4, 800 pounds of the fertilizer were broadcast and plowed down with 200 pounds in bands at planting time. On one-half of each plot 200 pounds of muriate of potash were broadcast before the ground was plowed. The results speak for the treatments involved.

TABLE II

1942 Potato Fertilizer Experiment, National Farm School, Doylestown, Pennsylvania

Plot	Fertilizer Analyses	Rate Applied	Yield, Bushels per Acre Standard Method	Yield, Bu. per Acre plus 200 lbs. Muriate Broadcast
1	4-8-8	1,000	177.8	202.2*
2	4-12-12	1,000	153.5	180.4
3	4-16-16	1,000	155.8	215.9
4	4-12-12	1,000	215.9	174.9*

* This plot injured by water so has no value.

The decreases in yields in plots 2 and 3 were definitely attributable to fertilizer injury, but where 800 pounds were plowed under in plot 4 with only 200 pounds in bands at planting time, injury was avoided and the yields were significantly increased. Column 5 shows that where extra potash was broadcast before plowing, yields were significantly increased on plots 1, 2, and 3 despite the injury and depressed yields resulting from band application as shown in column 4.

Results at Torresdale in 1942 with the same analyses and rate of application with total fertilizer application in bands are shown in the table on next page.

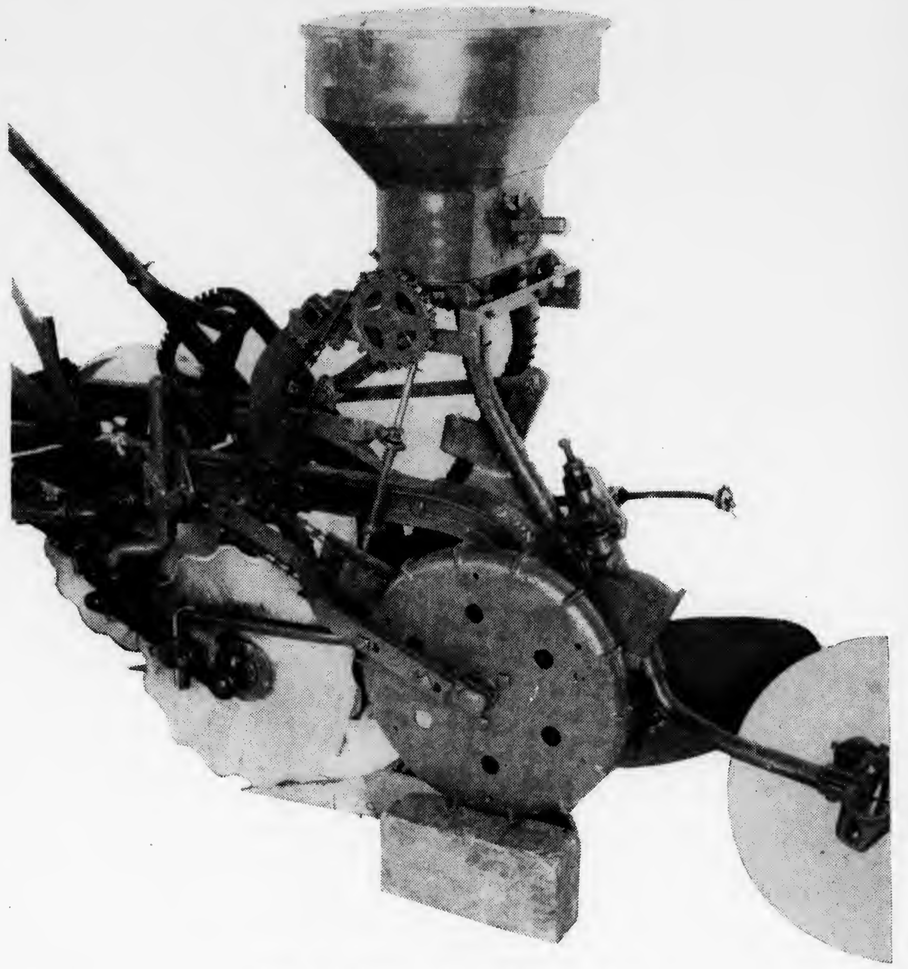


Fig. 3.—Plow-under Attachment

TABLE III

1942 Potato Fertilizer Experiment Philadelphia County Prison Farm Torresdale, Pennsylvania

Plot	Fertilizer Analyses	Rate Applied	Yield, Bushels per Acre Standard Method
1	4-8-8	1,000	453.7
2	4-12-12	1,000	595.8
3	4-16-16	1,000	497.4

Although the yields were not depressed by the band method of application as at Doylestown, this is believed to be due to the fact that the field had turned under a crop of soybeans to which 10 tons of manure had been applied before plowing. Undoubtedly the higher nitrogen status and better organic content enhanced the values of the high phosphorous high potash analyses.

On a timothy sod field adjacent to the above, a 4-12-12 fertilizer at the rate of 1,000 pounds per acre was applied as follows: (a) all in band, (b) three-fourths plowed down and one-fourth in band. An average of four replications showed a yield of 321.16 bushels for the band method and 374.19 bushels where three-fourths was plowed down. To determine whether additional phosphorus and potash would increase the yields, one half of each of the above plots had 500 pounds of an 0-12-12 broadcast before plowing. On the area where basic treatment was

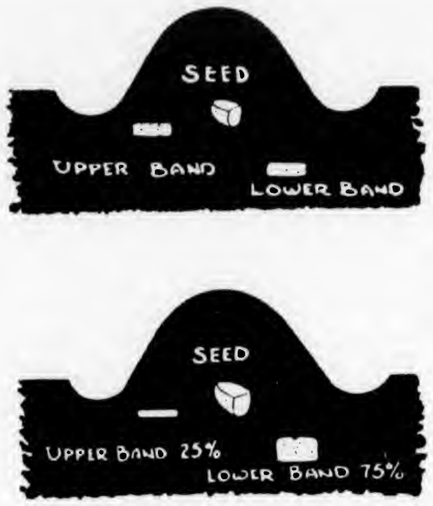


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Plot	Fertilizer Analyses	Rate Applied	Yield, Bushels per Acre Standard Method	Yield, Bu. per Acre plus 200 lbs. Muriate Broadcast
1	4-8-8	1,000	177.8	202.2*
2	4-12-12	1,000	153.5	180.4
3	4-16-16	1,000	155.8	215.9
4	4-12-12	1,000	215.9	174.9*

* This plot injured by water so has no value.

The decreases in yields in plots 2 and 3 were definitely attributable to fertilizer injury, but where 800 pounds were plowed under in plot 4 with only 200 pounds in bands at planting time, injury was avoided and the yields were significantly increased. Column 5 shows that where extra potash was broadcast before plowing, yields were significantly increased on plots 1, 2, and 3 despite the injury and depressed yields resulting from band application as shown in column 4.

Results at Torresdale in 1942 with the same analyses and rate of application with total fertilizer application in bands are shown in the table on next page.

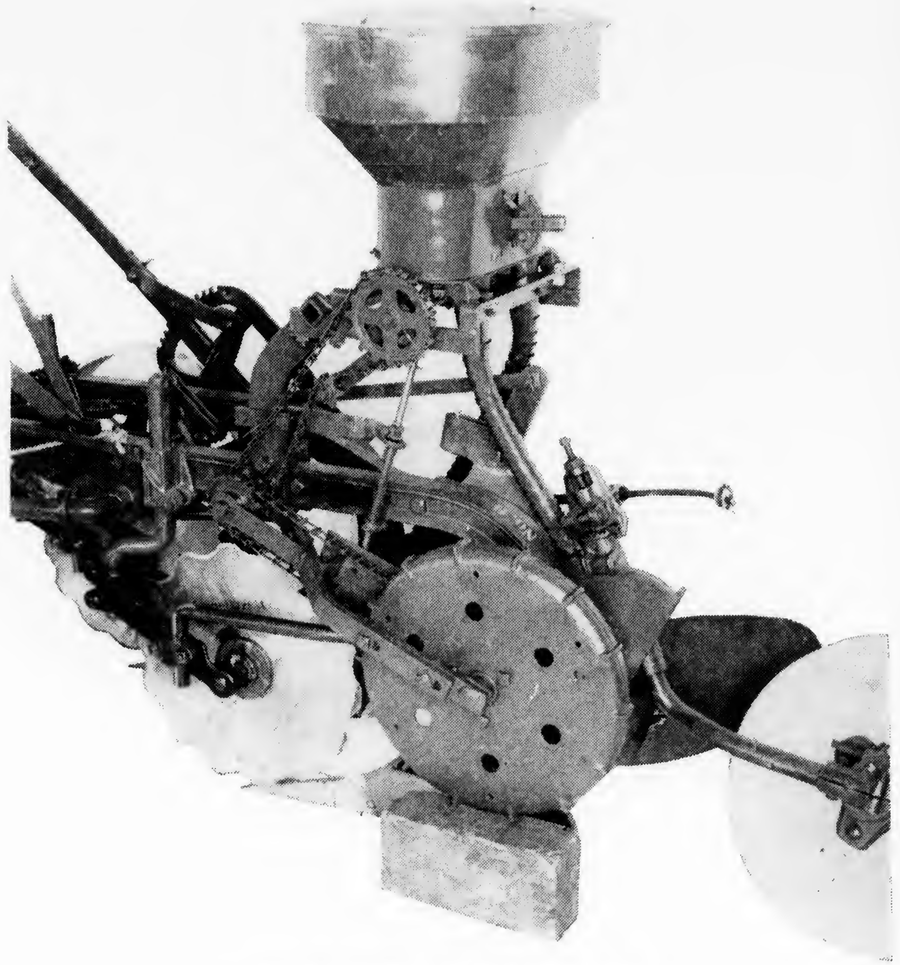


Fig. 3.—Plow-under Attachment

TABLE III

1942 Potato Fertilizer Experiment Philadelphia County Prison Farm Torresdale, Pennsylvania

Plot	Fertilizer Analyses	Rate Applied	Yield, Bushels per Acre Standard Method
1	4-8-8	1,000	453.7
2	4-12-12	1,000	595.8
3	4-16-16	1,000	497.4

Although the yields were not depressed by the band method of application as at Doylestown, this is believed to be due to the fact that the field had turned under a crop of soybeans to which 10 tons of manure had been applied before plowing. Undoubtedly the higher nitrogen status and better organic content enhanced the values of the high phosphorous high potash analyses.

On a timothy sod field adjacent to the above, a 4-12-12 fertilizer at the rate of 1,000 pounds per acre was applied as follows: (a) all in band, (b) three-fourths plowed down and one-fourth in band. An average of four replications showed a yield of 321.16 bushels for the band method and 374.19 bushels where three-fourths was plowed down. To determine whether additional phosphorus and potash would increase the yields, one half of each of the above plots had 500 pounds of an 0-12-12 broadcast before plowing. On the area where basic treatment was

INTENTIONAL SECOND EXPOSURE

in bands no increase was recorded, in fact there was a decrease of 1.36 bushels. On the plowed-down plot, however, the extra application of 0-12-12 all plowed down gave an additional increase of 18.04 bushels, or a total increase over the all-band method of 71.07 bushels.

Further tests comparing the all-band method with plowing under of different proportions of the total fertilizer application were carried on in Pennsylvania during 1943. These tests are summarized in Table IV.

Results 1943 Potato Fertilizer Tests

Farm	Analyses	Amount lbs.	Method	Yield Bu. per A.	Increase Bu. per A.
A	6-18-18	1600	Band	196.58	
	"	1000	Band &		
	"	600	Plowed Under	291.53	94.95
B	6-18-18	900	Band	234.56	
	"	300	Band &		
	"	600	Plowed Under	305.45	70.89
C	4-12-12	1600	Band	283.70	
	"	800	Band &		
	"	800	Plowed Under	352.60	68.90
D	4-12-12	1000	Band	121.63	
	"	500	Band &		
	"	500	Plowed Under	153.00	31.37
E	4-12-12	1200	Band	209.10	
	"	300	Band &		
	"	900	Plowed Under	250.10	41.00

Fields A and B were located on the farm of Ed Fisher at Coudersport, Pennsylvania, Field C was at Camp Potato and Fields D and E were on the Philadelphia County Prison Farm at Torresdale, Pennsylvania. Yields on all of the above farms were below average because of the late spring for the Potter County farmers and extreme drought on the farms in the southeastern part of the State.

From the results of the potato fertilization studies summarized in this discussion, it would appear that aside from the recognized value of good seed, spraying and proper cultivation, the most important consideration is a fertilizer with the right ratio of nitrogen, phosphorus and potash, provided this is applied in such a manner as to insure its most efficient utilization by the sensitive potato plants. At no time in the history of the Pennsylvania potato industry has there been such a crying need for efficiency. Its realistic application to the matter of fertilizer use on potatoes is the biggest and most patriotic contribution that can be made to the achievement of the 1944 potato production goal and victory.

Pennsylvania Seed Potato Certification

During 1943 there were 2,115.45 acres of potatoes entered for seed certification compared with 1,505.75 acres entered in 1942. The acreage entered and certified this year is the largest on record since this work was started in 1921. Last year there were 884.85 acres certified compared with 1,182.9 acres certified in 1943. This year there were 307,834 bushels of seed potatoes certified compared with 211,330 bushels certified in 1942. In 1934 there were 241,789 bushels certified which was the highest yearly production of certified seed potatoes previous to this year.

The varieties certified in their order of importance are as follows: Russett Rural, Katahdin, White Rural, Sebago, Chippewa, Houman, Sequoia, Nittany Cobbler, Irish Cobbler and Mesaba.

Growing conditions in most of the state were unfavorable except in the Potter County area where there was ample rainfall. Over two-thirds of the record crop produced this year was grown in Potter County.

While 44.1% of the total acreage entered for inspection was rejected this year, the crop produced is of excellent quality. In the Potter County area the tubers are running somewhat larger than usual, while in the rest of the state the tubers are slightly below normal size. The crop, however, is very uniform, comparatively free from disease, including scab and other surface blemishes. The average yield per acre during 1943 was 260.1 bushels compared with 238.8 bushels in 1942.

Seed potatoes were certified in 20 counties of the state as follows: Berks, Bradford, Butler, Cambria, Carbon, Crawford, Elk, Erie, Indiana, Lackawanna, Lehigh, Mercer, Monroe, Potter, Somerset, Sullivan, Tioga, Warren, Wyoming, and York.

Pennsylvania ranked 13th in the production of certified seed potatoes in 1942 among the 25 states that produced certified seed potatoes last year. This state ranked first in the production of White Rurals, second in Russets, fourth in Katahdins and ninth in Chippewas.

Of the 307,834 bushels produced and certified Potter County is credited with 210,613 bushels or .68%; Somerset County produced and had certified 22,920 bushels, Lehigh County 11,025 bushels.

TO HAUL THE FOOD

Farmers' Thrifty Habits Are Haunting Them Now That Old Trucks Are Wearing Out and The Available Replacements Are Few

Motor truck transportation is a headache for 1944 economic planners, and farm vehicles constitute one of their sharpest pangs. Farm trucks were, even before the war, the worst set of jalopies on the highways. Virtually no trucks have been manufactured since March 1, 1942, hence average condition of farm trucks has not improved.

Ownership Tabulated

The Office of Defense Transportation last week was reviewing statistics newly tabulated from its certification of all trucks. Agriculture, ODT finds, uses approximately 1,600,000 motor trucks. Of these, 1,100,000 are farmer-owned and 500,000 are for-hire units which handle unprocessed farm products and farm supplies. In capacity these split up: 1 ton and under (pickups), 45 per cent; 1½-ton, 50 per cent; over 1½-ton, 5 per cent.

When he had a free prewar choice, the farmer bought two used trucks for every new one purchased. This thrifty habit leaves him today stretched right over the barrel. Average age of the farm-owned truck, says ODT, exceeds ten years. All too many of these antique motor vehicles are wobbling to their well-earned rest, and the city feller whose castoffs formerly fed the farm market now insists on driving his truck until it, too, gives up the ghost.

Replacing 1% a Year

New trucks, from the sadly shrunken civilian pool which was set up early in 1942, are harder to buy than a case of bourbon. ODT points out that, in proportion to agriculture's prewar purchases of new trucks, this industry has been getting all the best of it. Allocations for farm-owned and for-hire farm trucks were 36 per cent of total withdrawals from the pool last July and August, peak farm months. But the War Food Administration counters that these allocations are replacing agriculture's old truck fleet at a rate of less than 1 per cent a year, which is not enough to keep the crops rolling.

WFA transportation experts are studying newly tabulated reports from the state agricultural war boards. Every area cried urgently for new equipment. The East's need is predominantly for milk-hauling trucks, the West's for heavy highway units, the rest of the country's for light pickup trucks. Clearly, unless a way is found around his present or impending lack of equipment, many a farmer faces trouble during the months ahead.

Farmers Are Resourceful

Measured statistically, catastrophe is unavoidable; but farm forecasts based upon mere statistics have a habit of going askew because the farmers are more resourceful than the figures can show. Every Washington agency with a stake in their field is working on plans to avoid crisis in the crop year just ahead. But even the gloomy Department of Agriculture admits a secret suspicion that though nothing were done to help him out, the framer might well find ways to prevent any farm products from spoiling in 1944 for lack of motor trucks to haul it to market.

Only 26,000 Left

Prior to 1941, the motor truck manufacturers sold 700,000 vehicles to domestic users in good years. For 1942 and 1943, the aggregate pool has been less than 150,000 trucks. Remaining in the pool as of November 15, 1943 were 10,000 light trucks (under 1½ tons) and 16,000 medium trucks (1½ to under 3 tons). A bare 2 per cent replacement schedule for agriculture would require 32,000 trucks next year, which is a lot more than the farmers can possibly hope to obtain.

No. 1 problem of farm hauling is milk, because it has to move every day over 60,000 to 75,000 handling routes. Its one advantage is that it can be planned regularly.

Trailers Urged

Organization of rural America into local transportation committees is proceeding under ODT auspices. WFA is getting together the facts and figures to back up recommending that WPB authorize building plenty of two-wheel farm trailers.

Another Washington-inspired program is a farm-truck maintenance campaign that will get rolling shortly after January 1, 1944.

FERTILIZING POTATOES IN 1944

By J. B. R. DICKEY

The fertilizer picture has changed somewhat since last year. Nitrogen, which was scarce in 1943, is now relatively plentiful. On the other hand it now seems necessary to export potash to Canada and England. Domestic production which was inadequate last year cannot be materially increased. This situation, coupled with an increased demand for fertilizer all over, and a reduction in potash percentages in **some** mixed goods appears to be inevitable. The place to reduce the potash, or even to cut it out altogether, would seem to be on grain crops on well-manured soils where it is least needed and seldom profitable. Some reduction here on the part of farmers and salesmen would mean an adequate supply for the places where it will do the most good.

In 1943 we had two principle fertilizer ratios designated for potatoes. These were 1-2½-2½, as in a 4-10-10, and 1-3-3, as in a 4-12-12. To save on nitrogen, both of these were lower in the proportion of this element than the old 1-2-2 ratio, such as 4-8-8. The lower nitrogen ratios seems to have proven pretty satisfactory. Some of us have felt for years that the old 4-8-8 carried too high a proportion of nitrogen and, when used liberally, tended to stimulate too heavy vine growth, especially with late potatoes on very fertile soils. Under such conditions a 1-3-3, or even a 1-2½-2½ ratio would grow a crop which would be easier to keep covered with spray and might set earlier and heavier and make a larger yield.

With more nitrogen available the OPA has now authorized only one ratio which really looks like a potato fertilizer. This is a 5-10-10, the same 1-2-2 ratio as the old 4-8-8, but one-fourth stronger or higher in analysis. Higher analyses in the same ratio, such as an 8-16-16, may also be mixed by manufacturers who have the necessary high analysis phosphate, which is now largely going for export. Authorized ratios which have a lower nitrogen ratio are 4-12-8, 4-12-4, and 3-12-6. These are all lower in potash than most of us like, especially the last two. Many manufacturers state that with their present allotment of potash, which is based on what they **bought** in the season of 1941-1942, they cannot mix as much 5-10-10 as their potato trade will call for. This situation hits particularly hard the outfits whose fertilizer **sales** have increased materially during the last few years, and those who had built up a backlog of potash at the **start** of the war and now find it exhausted. The only really high potash, complete ratios authorized for Pennsylvania are 4-8-12 and 3-9-15 which are supposed to be restricted to tobacco where high potash is considered essential.

What to Use

For early potatoes, and perhaps for Katahdins, which do not tend to make such large vines, the 1-2-2 ratio (5-10-10) may be quite satisfactory. It is probably also as good as anything on the less fertile soils where little or no manure has been used and no clover, or only a light stand, has been plowed under. For good soil conditions and late potatoes such as Rurals, Green Mountains, etc., about the only other choice is the 4-12-8, or perhaps the 4-12-4 if 4-12-8 cannot be had.

Actual experimental evidence on the fertilization of potatoes in Pennsylvania is pretty old and rather sketchy but it consistently seemed to indicate that, **with manure,** up to 20 pounds of nitrogen per acre was quite profitable on late potatoes, but over 25 pounds not only gave little increase but possibly a reduction. **Without manure,** but on a fertile soil, the increase from nitrogen was still more pronounced up to about 30 pounds, but there was little increase and sometimes a decrease when we went much higher.

As to the potash, **with manure,** there was a very nice and consistent increase as the potash was stepped up to 55 or 60 pounds per acre. Without manure it paid to go on up to about 85 pounds per acre. A fair amount of phosphoric acid was apparently needed but it could also easily be gotten too high or out of balance. When the percentage was higher than that of potash results were often not so good. It seems to be a case not only of having enough of each element, but also of having the proper **balance** of all three. If the phosphate is too high, or the potash too low, one may get too early maturity and dying of the vines with lowered yields. Observations have indicated that adequate potash was helpful in keeping the vines alive and green in a dry fall; but very high potash, used in large amounts, if there was any close contact with the seed, was apt to burn the sprouts. Low potash, 5 or 6 per cent, in situations where potash was badly needed, has in some cases been associated, rightly or wrongly, with poorer cooking quality.

If the materials could be purchased one might be able to have a fertilizer to suit his ideas mixed or mix it himself, although the latter is not apt to be popular. Another possibility would be to broadcast extra potash, either before plowing or to disk it in deeply. Since muriate of potash runs 50 to 60 per cent actual potash, 100 pounds per acre would furnish quite a large supply.

How Much Per Acre

There are still restrictions on the amount of fertilizer one may buy per acre, based mainly on what he used in previous years. With fertilizer prices rigidly held down and labor and crop values relatively higher it would otherwise be a great temptation to put on all the fertilizer one could buy. With supplies none too great, and a definite shortage of potash, this would not be fair to the other fellow who might get little or none. Under good Pennsylvania conditions it unquestionably does not pay to use as much fertilizer as is customary in Maine and New Jersey. On fertile soil, with manure, the increase one gets from over 700 or 800 pounds per acre of standard strength goods on late potatoes is normally seldom very profitable. Without manure one may be warranted in going to 1000 pounds. For early potatoes the above amounts might be raised 200 pounds per acre. It is well to bear in mind that most potato fertilizer will carry one-fourth more of all three elements of plant food than it did two years ago, so that amounts might better be reduced than raised. Too much of either nitrogen or phosphate may not be advantageous and may aggravate a shortage of potash rather than compensate for it.

There is considerable interest but little local experimental information on the plowing down of part of the fertilizer for potaotes. In five tests conducted in Pennsylvania in 1943 by the potash interests, with total amounts ranging from the equivalent of 1200 to 2400 of standard strength goods, significant increases were reported in every case where half the fertilizer was put on the bottom of the furrow with an attachment on the plow, and the other half in the planter, compared to where it was all applied with the planter. The total applications were in most cases much larger than normal, and too much fertilizer in the row has in some seasons and under some conditions reduced yields. Other evidence indicates that where the total is not over 1000 pounds per acre it might about as well all go on with the planter in bands at each side of the row. Heavier applications might perhaps better be split and part plowed down. Evidence from other states on corn indicates that best results come from "plow soil application" rather than from simply broadcasting and plowing under. Theoretically the deep application of at least part of the plant food puts it down where there is a more uniform supply of the moisture essential to its utilization by roots during dry weather. In spite of a dry late summer quite a few farm tests of plowing under were reported as giving negative results on various crops. We need more simple, comparative farm tests of ratios, amounts per acre and methods of application under representative conditions; and we need such tests reported. One test in one season proves nothing and is apt to be misleading. If we have figures on a lot of tests over several years we soon get a pretty good idea whether a thing is generally advisable.

Order Fertilizer Early

The smart potato grower will make up his mind promptly as to what he wants, get his order in at once and accept delivery of at least a part of it this winter. Fertilizer men say frankly that they do not see how they can handle anywhere nearly the amount farmers will want during the peak spring months. Many now have their bins full of well-cured goods, which they will guarantee to stay in good drilling condition until spring if stored according to their directions in a good dry building. If they can move this stuff out to farm and local warehouse storage they can refill the bins and have another supply cured by spring. This will also enable them to hold labor through the winter which they cannot replace otherwise.

Another consideration is transportation. We all know the railroads are overloaded. Their equipment is wearing out and there is the possibility of a strike coming along just when fertilizer should move next spring. Trucks and tires are also wearing out and no one knows what the gasoline situation will be a few months hence.

THE GUIDE POST

Published monthly by the Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers,' Inc.

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Annual membership fee is **$1.00** This includes the GUIDE POST.

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All communications should be addressed to C. F. H. Wuesthoff, Executive Secretary, Williamsport, Pennsylvania.

[1]

The "Table of Round Numbers" for Huntsmen and Fishermen is as follows:

300 yds. ..... 1 mile
5 or more .....1 doz.
22 min. .....1 hr.
3 fish .....1 string
5 fish ..... a big string
7 oz. .....1 lb.

The Table goes on to say: "Beware the fisherman; he leaveth early in the morning; he disturbeth the whole household, but he goeth forth full of hope. He returneth in the evening but is empty-handed; he is hungry and he exaggerateth the truth."

NOTICE! — NOTICE!

The Annual Business Meeting of the Pennsylvania Co-operative Potato Growers' Association, Inc., will be held Thursday, January 20th, at 11 a.m. in the House Caucus Room (332 Main Capitol Building), Harrisburg.

The business to be transacted will include:

1. Officers' and Committee Reports.
2. Old and New Business.
3. Election of three directors.
4. General Business of the Association.

M. P. WHITENIGHT
President
C. F. H. WUESTHOFF
Sec'y and Gen. Mgr.

THE COOPERATIVE-BUSINESS CONFERENCE

Thursday, January 20th — afternoon and evening, will be another splendid opportunity for growers and business men to get together. Both groups are becoming more and more aware of the necessity of intelligent understanding of one anothers problems—they appreciate as time goes on that when both are prosperous they can go a long way. A prosperous agriculture always means good business. It takes both to make a satisfied consumer.

Cooperating marketing groups will have a splendid opportunity to enlighten businessmen as to their method and extent of their business, while cooperating businessmen and food distributors will be given every opportunity to voice their reactions to cooperative distribution of food products. The Goodfellowship Dinner following the Conference is a three way affair with The Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers' Association, The Pennsylvania Farm Bureau, and the Pennsylvania Chain Store Council sharing the honors.

Following a dramatization of Cooperative Food Products, three important addresses will be made by today's outstanding leaders, Messrs. H. E. Babcock, of Cornell University, Paul Nystrom, of Columbia University and Miles Horst, of Harrisburg. Growers and cooperators cannot afford to miss this **BIG occasion** of the year. Tickets will be on sale all day Wednesday and Thursday at the various sessions. See the detailed program for all sessions on page 16 of this issue.

A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

DR. E. L. NIXON

If I were to say what I believe is the most important single need of mankind in the world today it would be that we need a program that will enable us to utilize our tremendous resources and technology in overcoming poverty and idleness, not through the destruction of our resources but rather through their equitable utilization and conservation.

More than this we need a force that will make people want to do this. We have the wealth, we have the inventive genius; we need the willingness—we lack the leadership. Mankind's ultimate destiny depends not on whether he can learn new lessons, or make new discoveries, or new implements of destruction, or new conquests, but on his acceptance of the lessons taught him some two thousand years ago.

For the want of this, the world is ravaged by war, destruction and fear. Whole populations are threatened by starvation. People by the millions have forsaken principles and life values, once unquestioned. Whole nations are committed to the philosophy of complete reliance upon force and ruthlessness.

The worst mankind has to fear is defeat and self-extermination, brought about through the philosophy of "might makes right"—"dog eat dog"—"class against class." Alas! how miserable is man when the foot of the conqueror is on his neck. All of this is a holdover from the early history of mankind, when the most fit or the most fortunate survived. The conquering tribe either enslaved or put to death the conquered members. This principle, the survival of the fittest, seems to be inherent with mankind—and why not, isn't it everywhere? The weeds over-run the crops. Some varieties smother others out. In business it is called competition. With labor a strike is called. With nations it is called war.

The best mankind has to hope is to become the stepping stones on the road to higher things. Almost two thousand years ago a new social and business philosophy was enunciated. This is the season for celebrating this new philosophy. There is nothing else like it in all the world. The spirit of Christmas seems to pervade all civilization. Will it eventually permeate the social, political and business affairs of man?

It is a simple philosophy and centers around the eleventh commandment. St. John 13:34, "A new commandment I give you, That ye love one another, as I have loved you, that ye also love one another." Again St. John 15:12, "This is my commandment, that ye love one another, as I have loved you. Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends."

These are strong words to adapt to the social, political and business affairs of an ultra-modern world.

At this Christmas season, with most of the earth's inhabitants gripped in bloody battle, it seems that the worst mankind has to fear—defeat and extermination—is at hand. Yet the Christmas spirit still prevails and the still, small voice seems to whisper:

"What is this that ye do, my children?
What madness has seized you?
Two thousand years have I labored among you and taught you not in word alone, but in deed, to love one another.
Is this the fruit of my toils, of my vigils and prayers and privations?
Have you so soon forgotten all the lessons of love and forgiveness?
This is the house of the Prince of Peace, and would you profane it?
Thus with violent deeds and hearts overflowing with hatred!
Lo! where the crucified Christ from his cross is gazing upon you!
See! in those sorrowful eyes what meekness and holy compassions!
Hark! how those lips still repeat the prayer, 'O Father, forgive them!'
Let us repeat that prayer in the hour when the wicked assail us,
Let us repeat it now, and say 'O Father, forgive them'."

ANNUAL MEETING

Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers' Association, Inc.

at

HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

JANUARY 19TH - 20TH, 1944

THE PROGRAM

WEDNESDAY A.M., JANUARY 19th, 1944
332 Main Capitol Building
9:30 A.M.—A JOINT MACHINERY CONFERENCE
Co-Chairmen—Howard J. Ziegler, Pa. Implement Dealers' Assn.
M. P. Whitenight, Penna. Co-op. Potato Growers.
Calvin Will, Penna. Junior Potato Growers.
Fred H. Bateman, The Idealist
by R. U. Blasingame, Pennsylvania State College
Present Needs and Future Demands of the Potato Industry
Junior and Senior Potato Growers
Manufacturers and Dealers

WEDNESDAY P.M., JANUARY 19th, 1944
332 Main Capitol Building
2:00 P.M.—A PRODUCTION CONFERENCE
Discussion leader—P. Daniel Frantz, Allentown
Adoptable Rotations—J. B. R. Dickey, State College
Good Seed—P. E. Dougherty, Williamsport
Fertilizer and Its Application—Sam D. Gray
Foliage Protection—A. L. Hacker, Lehigh County
Above subjects are assigned but the discussion leader will feel free to call upon the experiences of individual growers attending.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, JANUARY 19th, 1944
332 Main Capitol Building
7:00 P.M.—LAND UTILIZATION CONFERENCE
Discussion Leader—A. L. Patrick, Regional Director
Soil Conservation Administration

Field Layouts	Soil Building
Reclaiming Lands	Irrigation
Drainage	Tree Plantings

Above subjects are assigned but the discussion leader will feel free to call upon the experiences of individual growers attending.

THURSDAY A.M., JANUARY 20th, 1944
332 Main Capitol Building
8:30 A.M.—A PROSPEROUS POTATO INDUSTRY (WHAT IT TAKES)
by E. L. Nixon, State College, Pa.
11:00 A.M.—ANNUAL BUSINESS SESSION OF THE ASSOCIATION
Old and New Business
Report of Officers and Committees
Election of Directors

Cooperative—Business Conference

THURSDAY P.M., JANUARY 20th, 1944
332 Main Capitol Building
Co-Chairmen—M. P. Whitenight, Penna. Co-op. Potato Growers
E. M. Shaulis, Penna. Farm Bureau Co-op.
Fred W. Johnson, Penna. Chain Store Council
2.00 P.M.—Review of Co-operative Accomplishments and Expectations
Berks-Lehigh Fruit Growers' Co-op.,
Lionel Newcomer, Mgr.

Twin Valley Farmers' Exchange,
W. E. Eshelman, Mgr.
Women's Guild of Somerset, Mrs. Mostellar, Pres.
Coatesville Producers' Exchange,
Noah Hershey, Mgr.
Lehigh Valley Farmers' Co-op., Glenn Bogar, Mgr.
Adams County Fruit Growers, John Peters, Mgr.
Hazleton Dairy Co-op., W. T. Spaulding, Mgr.
Philadelphia Vegetable Growers' Co-op.,
Ray Wenker, Pres.
Penna. Co-op. Potato Growers,
C. F. H. Wuesthoff, Mgr.
3:30 P.M.—CO-OPERATIVES AS "OTHERS SEE IT"
Chas. Vontagen, Exec. Sec'y, Penna. Grocers' Assn.
Roland N. Benjamin, Penna. Farm Bureau Co-op.
H. D. Williamson, American Stores Company
Curtis Baum, Atlantic Commission Company
Lee Rumml, Kroger Grocery & Baking Company
Harry Portzline, Weis Pure Foods Company
Samuel Cooke, Penn Fruit Company
Mr. Marcus, Giant Food Fair
Mr. Thomas, The Market Basket
6:15 P.M.—CO-OPERATIVE - BUSINESS "GOODFELLOWSHIP" DINNER
Penn-Harris Ball Room
7:30 P.M.—Introduction of Prominent Guests and Groups
Awarding of Medals and Certificates
Address—Farmers' Co-operatives After the War
by H. E. Babcock, Ithaca, N. Y., Founder of the GLF Co-operative
Address—Co-operation Between Business and Agriculture
by Dr. Paul H. Nystrom, President, Limited-Price Variety Stores Association
Address—Pennsylvania's Agriculture
by Miles Horst, Secretary of Agriculture

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THE JUNIOR-GUIDE POST

Pennsylvania Junior Cooperative Potato Growers Assn.

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All communications concerning the Junior Cooperative Potato Growers' Association should be addressed to either Secretary, Daniel W. Keener, Neffs, Penna., or C. F. H. Wuesthoff, Gen'l. Manager, 410 Campbell St., Williamsport, Penna.

EIGHT-POINT FARM PLAN

"To be of enduring use to the United States a farm program must accomplish two things—it must promote the production of all the food, fat and other fiber needed, and it must render unto the farmer and the stockman a return commensurate with the value of his products."

To achieve that goal, leaders have authored the following farm program:

1. Strive for abundance, not scarcity.
2. Place the few production adjustments it needs on marketings, not acreages.
3. Protect the natural value of the earth against waste, abuse and exploitation.
4. Encourage discovery of new industrial uses for agricultural products.
5. Permit the farm to bargain equitably with industry for manpower.
6. Include a sound, simple and unambitious credit system.
7. Reduce nursing from a government bottle.
8. Encourage individual enterprise.

It will be noticed that this plan is, in several of its provisions, diametrically opposed to the plan of the New Deal administration. Obviously it is an indication of the current thinking of a majority of farmers—a trend which will be worth watching as Time progresses.

CULL POTATOES FOR DAIRY FEED

Cull potatoes are worth 25 per cent as much for feeding dairy cattle as a grain mixture; therefore, if grain sells for $50.00 per ton, potatoes should be worth $12.50 or 62½c per cwt. or 37½c per bushel. Cows may be fed as high as 40 pounds per head daily. This amount should be arrived at gradually, however. Sprouts, if any, should be removed and the feeder should also be certain to slice potatoes before feeding.

F.F.A. NATIONAL CONVENTION

Seven young Pennsylvania farmers were included in the 148 candidates who received their American Farmer Degrees during the Sixteenth National Future Farmers of America Convention held at Kansas City, Missouri, during the week of October 11th. They are: Roy R. Greenley, Tunkhannock; Glenn G. Herr, West Lampeter; Harold Holmes, Waterford; Clayton Horn, Bangor; Andrew Schertel, Barto; Amos Schmoll, Towanda; and F. Lee Shoemaker, Lock Haven.

Greenley and Schmoll, Pennsylvania's official delegates to the Convention from the Keystone F.F.A. Association, participated in the session during which the delegates voted to change portions of the American Farmer requirements to read, "show outstanding ability as evidenced by his leadership and co-operation in student, chapter and community activities, and have a satisfactory scholarship record as certified to by the local school superintendent or principal." And amendment was passed that all proposed amendments must be presented to the Board of Trustees at least 60 days and to the State Associations at least 30 days prior to the National Convention.

K.P. "Huh, you can't fool me. I know they've got potato-peeling machines in this man's army."

Sgt.: "Yeh, smart guy, and you're the latest model."

THE FARM "HOLMES" OF ERIE COUNTY

By BIRON E. DECKER



Introducing Harold Holmes, former Erie County Vocational Agriculture pupil, Waterford, Pa., State Keystone F.F.A. member, and since he has become established as a full-fledged farmer he has been awarded the coveted American Farmer Degree, which was conferred upon him last fall at Kansas City, Mo. Harold attended school at Waterford where he received his vocational agriculture training under the supervision of Ray J. Salmon, Supervisor of Vocational Agriculture.

Running true to form Harold made good the objectives set by leaders in the field of Agricultural Education. He gradually built up his agricultural project program to a point from which it was possible for him to take the step—from class-room to the farm—established in farming.

Spliced

Harold, being aggressive, had already selected a young lady now known as Mrs. Harold Holmes, Co-Farm Operator. Recently a third number was welcomed to the Holmes family which has brought added cheer and happiness to the Holmes home.

The Farm

Harold purchased his present farm from the heirs of his father's estate in 1942. The farm consists of 135 acres. It is well stocked with 35 head of cattle and modern farm machinery, including a 1943 model caterpillar tractor as well as the usual essential implements. During 1942 he put up 150 tons of hay and filled a silo, 14x35 feet. His cropping plan includes soiling as well as green manure crops and a sound rotation to preserve the soil.

Potato Spray Ring

During 1940-41 Harold operated a potato spray ring which he personally planned, financed and operated. His potato interests led to numerous interesting ventures. Harold was successful in passing the tests given grade inspectors for Pennsylvania and he still holds his inspector's stamp and credentials.

Harold produced certified seed potatoes during which time he learned how to rogue out the diseased plants.

Improved Farm Practices

Other farm enterprises included in his operations were: Swine production utilizing self feeders and pastures; pure bred hogs and calves; legume production; use of certified seed potatoes; operated 400-gallon, 8-row potato sprayer for his own and other farms of his area; tested his cattle for butterfat. Cabbage, too, was a venture which added to the family larder. Another important farm crop which Harold produces is maple syrup. This is an early spring cash crop which helps Harold start his spring season.

Project Program—In School

1937-38	Home Improvement.
1938-39	Farm Accounts and Farm Records. Continuation of the Farm Home and Farm Improvement Program.
1939-40	Continuation of former program.
1940-41	Spray Ring, Repaired and improved dairy plant.
1941-43	Soil conservation program. Woodlot management. Co-operative spray ring (potatoes). Member Cow Testing Association. Potato grade inspector for Pennsylvania Potato Growers' Association.
1942-43	Dairy Herd, 30 cattle. Potato Inspector. General Farming.

His grand total income for his in-school and out-of-school program to date totaled $3,395.68.

F.F.A. Leadership

Harold served as toastmaster of his local F.F.A. banquet in 1939, won fifth place in the 1942 potato contest, and sixth in State livestock judging contest in 1942.

Harold Holmes is a Director of the Junior Potato Growers.

WHAT ONE ACRE CAN DO

America's food and feed production goals for 1944 exceed all records. The question is being asked—"How many more acres must be put under the plow?" In the face of labor and machinery shortages, the question might better be—"How much more can be produced on every acre now being farmed?"

Years of experimental work have shown that potatoes are greedy feeders on potash. It not only increases the yield per acre, but greatly improves shape and quality. These are important considerations in making the most efficient use of the land you work.

To get the best results from the high-potash fertilizer which you purchase for your potatoes this spring, broadcast before plowing or apply with a special fertilizer attachment to the plow at least one half of the total application. The remainder should be applied in the usual way in bands at planting time.

Outstanding results have been obtained from this method in numerous experimental demonstrations during 1942 and 1943, the increases ranging from 30—70 bushels per acre. See your official agricultural adviser about the amount of potash you will need for your potato crop and the best way to apply it.

Write us for additional information and free literature on how to fertilize your crops.

More Potash means More Profit

American Potash Institute

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NEW 400-BUSHEL CLUB MEMBERS

The 1943 400-Bushel Club is a very select and elite group. Growers earning this coveted award this year have had to do some real planning and have had to put into practice modern approved practices in every detail. This year weather, labor, machinery, fertilizer and spraying hazards had to be combatted more than ever before. This association is proud of the fact that some actually qualified in spite of handicaps presented. The following checked and supervised reports have been duly received and accredited:

Thomas J. Neefe, of Potter County, produced 470.8 bushels of Sequoias; Bresich Brothers of Schuylkill County, produced 439.4 bushels of Katahdins: Warren F. Frantz, Lehigh County, had a record yield this year of 404.7 bushels with the Katahdin variety. It will be of interest to growers to know that the Breisch brothers applied no fertilizer when planting but they plowed under 600 pounds of a 6-15-15 fertilizer applied on a clover sod. Warren Frantz plowed under sweet clover and soybeans.

The above gentlemen will be awarded their medals properly engraved at the Annual Meeting in Harrisburg, January 20th.

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SEED POTATOES

Maine—Cobblers Katahdins

Chippewas Sebagos

Comments regarding record potato production in Maine apparently mislead trade to assume seed supply is also well above normal. Early shipments of certified stock show an exceptionally heavy shrink due to over-size and quality undesirable for seed pack. Best estimates now indicate shipping tonnage scarcely equals that of last spring.

VIGOROUS SELECTED APPROVED

Michigan—Rural Russets

Green Mountains

Acreage entered for certification was slightly increased and, with efficient roguing, rejections were held to a minimum. Low temperatures during early September reduced prospects for better than average yield. Recent bin inspections show tubers are medium in size, of good type and quality, with volume slightly below last season.

Wire or write for information and prices on your requirements for spring planting.

Dougherty Seed Growers

WILLIAMSPORT PENNA.

BUSINESS AND AGRICULTURE

CANADA ALSO LOOKS AHEAD

For many years I have been taking a special interest in agriculture. Speaking from a Canadian standpoint I have always felt that if we had a prosperous agricultural industry we would have a prosperous Canada.

The figures are very interesting. "Where 96 per cent of those questioned felt business prospered when farming did, only 79 per cent were convinced that farmers did well when industry did." I wish I could have an opportunity of speaking to the 79 per cent who said they were convinced farmers did well when industry did, for I believe they are entirely wrong. The one special reason for this is that the urban people have not only been prepared but very anxious to buy from the farmer what he produces at a price which does not give him a profit. It is my opinion that every business transaction to be good business must show a profit to both parties concerned, and we have been carrying on bad business when we have been buying from the farmer at prices which do not give him a profit.

During the past few years I have given hundreds of addresses on this subject, and of course find it most difficult to say in a letter all I would say in an address. In fact tonight I am going to speak to over five hundred people, farmers and business men. It is possible there will be 400 farmers and 100 business men present.

It is my considered opinion that three things will make agriculture prosperous: (1) better farming, (2) new uses for farm products, (3) a decision on the part of the urban people to pay the farmer a price which will give him a net profit.

Economists, bankers, and business men generally agree on the idea that if we had a prosperous agricultural industry we would have a prosperous Canada. This being so, my policy is to put the above three ideas into effect, and if we do there is absolutely no doubt that agriculture will be prosperous—both in your country and in mine.

J.B.R.

To the
Potato Growers of Pennsylvania

Best Wishes
For the Holiday Season and
The New Year

From
Hammond Bag and Paper Co.

WHEN GOOD GROWERS GET TOGETHER

Continued from page five

Potato, where, in the months that followed, the present buildings were erected. As the construction progressed, individuals and groups contributed labor and materials. The flag-pole, a rustic fountain in the center of the assembly hall and a woodland trail, for instance, were built by Future Farmer boys. Flagstones in the hall and a huge fireplace stone mantel came from a man Doctor Nixon met in a roadside inn one day. Trucks brought the stone and then disappeared. The grateful members of the Association had never heard of the donor before, nor have they seen him since. Doctor Nixon affects people that way.

The Association's trial plots for the observation and increase of potato seedlings were in use several years before the building was erected. The plantings began when A. C. Ramseyer, well-known Ohio potato grower, and Judge Robert R. Lewis, of near-by Coudersport, lent the land to the Association and Doctor Nixon transferred his potato-breeding plots from State College to the high altitude of Denton Hill. Deeds to the land were given to the Association later, at the Camp dedication.

As the big sign along the Roosevelt Highway at Camp Potato says, more than 100,000 seedlings have been tested. The count this year became 117,000. The sign, incidentally, was built and donated by the potato-farming inmates of Philadelphia's prison farm, at Holmesburg, who are up in the 400-bushel class.

Of the 117,000 seedlings, Doctor Nixon estimates that less than fifty have been promising enough to keep beyond their first season. Nittany, Pennigan, russet Pocono and white-skinned Allegheny Mountain are those named and in commerce today. The last two were launched three years ago—Allegheny Mountain as "the finest table qaulity potato in the world." It has consistently yielded over 500 bushels to the acre for good growers, but is proving susceptible to the spud farmer's latest menace, ring rot.

The objectives and the mechanics of the breeding project, which is largely in Doctor Nixon's capable hands, are a story in themselves. Briefly, the current aim is to find a potato that will meet the Pennsylvania housewife's preference for white skin, shallow eyes and good cooking quality, and the Pennsylvania grower's desire for disease resistance and high yield. The crosses, which began with Russet Rural and persistent old McCormick, are made at Camp Potato. Doctor Nixon then takes the seed to greenhouses owned by chocolate-king M. S. Hershey, at Hershey, Pennsylvania, where the first crop of tubers are grown by Hershey farm-school boys in pots in the winter. Thus a full season is gained. The new tubers, after cold treatment, are ready for planting in early summer.

HU 23 ME is the prima donna of the 1943 tests. If it does as well another year Doctor Nixon will be looking for a name. He fancies Shikelemy, which was the name of an Iroquois king whose friendship with William Penn kept the Indian wars out of Pennsylvania. The doctor's friends wish someone would come forward with a name easier to pronounce. So if you have suggestions send them now to *Country Gentleman*.

Perhaps the strangest circumstance of all in Doctor Nixon's relation with the Pennsylvania potato growers is the fact that he has never been an officer or director of the Association he has helped so much. He is a member, and belongs to the 400-Bushel Club, having bought 425 acres of what he calls a "whippoorwill" farm in the mountains a few miles west of State College some years ago. His faculty friends were sure he was crazy, when they looked at the soil, until Nixon put his own system to work and changed their minds.

He has been employed by the Pennsylvania Chain Store Council for the past four years. He literally talked himself into the job through his enthusiasm generated over the potato-marketing plan; and now has to talk for his living, having averaged better than 100 speaking dates a year since he left Penn State. His theme—for city audiences—is what it means in dollars and cents to city businessmen to have farmers prospering too, and how town and country can work together. When not speaking or at Camp Potato—where he spends six to eight weeks every year—he's apt to be busy translating his farmer co-operative "vision" to reality in one part of Pennsylvania or another.

Test Industrial Products

This man who helped create the good growers, and then brought them together, makes his best speeches in the clear air on the big flat mountaintops

near Camp Potato. He likes to expound on the benefits to farmer and manufacturer alike from the Growers' Association policy of working with any responsible individual or company who wants to test a product in the Camp Potato fields. Many have, and because of it there are crawler tractors and spray rigs and fertilizers—to name a few—that do a better job now than they did before. Or maybe he'll get wound up on the sort of people Pennsylvania's commercial potato growers are — and introduce you to Ed Fisher, vice-president of the Association, who lent Camp Potato sixty acres of his land this year when the deer got too troublesome on the Camp's own property. The deer, their nasty habit of pawing potatoes out of the ground, and the current restrictions on fence sales are the subject of another sulphurous Nixon lecture.

But Doctor Nixon's completely irresistible words come when he waves an arm at the high tableland yet uncleared in Northern Pennsylvania, and claims it for potatoes. There's plenty of that land, covered with brushy forest growth.

You look out across miles and miles of plateau with him and see it, in time, one vast sea of potatoes, with wooded valleys in between. It's only started that way now, but you see it just the same. Nixon and his fellow growers have the big plows to turn down the brush; they have chisels to break the soil deep; they plant clover and rye, and maybe soybeans, and in a year or two potatoes go in, the spray rigs travel the rows once a week all summer long, and then the diggers come. And the spuds come up, 300, 400 bushels to the acre. And you're out in the field on your knees, like Doctor Nixon, with your hands in the dirt, and you're a good grower too!

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Arthur V. Youngs

2 "CUPROCIDE Dust held my potato vines and controlled blight as well as bordeaux . . . this was a severe test as blight has been worse this season than for the past 15-20 years."

J. Dwight Reeve

3 "We applied CUPROCIDE Dust on 135 acres of potatoes . . . obtained good commercial control of blight . . . find CUPROCIDE Dust very satisfactory in either wet or dry season."

Carl and John Hohorst

4 "I have used Yellow CUPROCIDE spray on my potato acreage for two seasons. This past season I used CUPROCIDE on my entire 90 acres. It gave me excellent control of blight."

Gustaf A. Johnson

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Why is Cobbler Seed Scarce and Costly

Bookkeeping Details in Certification

By C. L. Fitch, Station A, Ames, Iowa

B. F. Studebaker of Union, Ohio, asks why Cobbler seed from sources usually used by him is more costly than that of Chippewa and Katahdin.

Of course the universal reason must apply: Cobbler seed is more scarce, in proportion to demand. However, that is a shallow and superficial answer. There is a reason behind that.

I believe this to be the all-but universal epidemic of leaf-roll virus disease in the northeastern part of North America. I have not had personal experience in this matter; but by the books, it looks like this: Leaf roll the very first year of infection shows up as brown net in the tubers of Cobblers and Green Mountains. This makes them unsaleable for seed—poor merchandise, although no more unfit for seed than other varieties that have the disease just as seriously but do not show it.

Farther west, in dryer regions, there is less of the leaf roll virus, for two reasons: (1) They have less of the almost universal varriers of leafroll, viz Chippewas, Katahdins and Sebagoes and (2) less or none of the peach aphis, the principle carriers of leaf roll, from infected host to healthy plant.

Some Better Bookkeeping Details

Seed potato certification is an exceedingly profitable service rendered to the industry and to the country, and I am one of its best friends.

It is this way—one should never try to improve his wife. It is too dangerous and I am not married to certification. However, with extreme care and wisdom, one may even in the United States, try to improve one's beloved child a trifle. And, by the way, who wants our children to take orders like Germans do? That is still more dangerous in the long run.

What kind of bookkeeping is this! "Trace found," "present." If John Smith owed you for 11 sacks of potatoes at $3, how much money could you collect from his heirs if your bookkeeper made such entries. Now my wife speaks gently to my kids, and seed potato certifiers have been spoken gently to for years, and like my kids, have paid no heed. Indeed, gentleness and wisdom will really get results in a lifetime. However, for immediate results, knock down the drag-outs are better. My kids mind their mother promptly and most admirably when their dad's heel is behind the seats of their pants.

Their vague bookkeeping is not the worst, but here is the way it should be done. The inspector should run his car across the head of the field, and watch his meter to the one-twentieth mile. Then he should calculate how many rows there are. He should carry six to ten tall stakes painted white and red. He should set these two in a place in the rows in three or more places in straight lines, and far enough apart in the row to make up a belt of 10,000 plants. Then he should record and report exactly how many plants having each disease, he found per 10,000. These records should go onto the certification tags. The first inspection is much the most important unless there is ring rot. The first inspection is all that need go onto the tags.

The worst evils in certification are those that grow out of the necessity of certifying for many growers, good and bad, in order to keep up volume enough to pay the bills. To build from what growers have, by indexing and tuber uniting and increase plots is one result of this seed. To find long clean stock—free of all visible virus, and to go out and buy it is far better. The very worst evil is to sell all certified seed, whether five years clean of all virus, or 2 per cent or in between on the same basis, and skin the clean man to keep the 2 per cent man paying. The readings should go onto the tags. The bills must be paid. How can the boys pay them and be fair to the customer and to the good grower?

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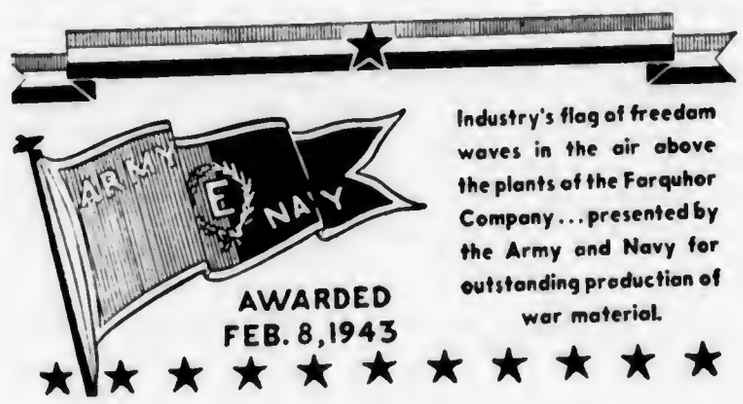
The Automatic Planter

Select an "Iron Age" Automatic Planter if you wish to plant the greatest number of acres per day, and wish to eliminate the expense of an extra man on the back of the machine, and if you are satisfied with an occasional double or miss.

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Select an "Iron Age" Assisted Feed Planter if you want absolutely 100 % stand, and have a reliable man on the back of the machine to make corrections. If you desire maximum disease control and want the greatest possible spacing accuracy, or if you wish to plant seed potatoes by the tuber unit method.

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